The KINGOO Chronicles

Episode Two

The Rise of King Galen

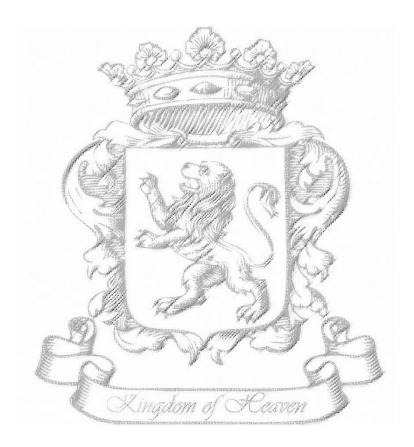
by Steven G. Kennard

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K I N G D O M Chronicles



For the Glory of the Kingdom of Heaven

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PREFACE

The Rise of King Galen



alen Wallace has proven his gift as a "Reader" of the sacred book and it has made him a target for the Dragon who wants Galen to read for him so he can become like God. With his new bride Tira now safe in

the castle the Kingdom seems to be at peace. The King believes it is time for his son Galen and his new wife Tira to ascend to the throne. The planning of such an event was already in the beginning stages when King Derek, as was his usual habit, wanted to consult the Spirit of the Book and ask for divine guidance in the matter.

The order was given, and the guards went to retrieve the Holy Book of Beginnings. After a while of waiting on the Royal Guards, the King was becoming extremely anxious. The King was pacing back and forth and said, "This was getting nowhere." The King went to the door and opened it and looked both directions and took a deep breath and yelled as loud as he could ... G U A R D S!

Episode 2



The Rise of King Galen





Chapter One Where is the Book?



WHERE IS THE BOOK

Somewhere in the minds of all men evil thoughts are born. When the evil thoughts are turned into actions, then it is up to good men to intervene. All it takes for evil to succeed is for good men to do nothing.



he box that housed the Book of Beginnings was brought to the King as he had ordered. The King opened the lid to the box expecting for the familiar blue light to shoot out, but this time it didn't. The King felt around in the bottom of the box and found the Zephaniah Stones which hid the book, but the book itself was not to be found.

Suddenly panic came over the King, "What has happened to the book" he shouted to the guards. Get my son and the guards whose duty it is to guard the book. "Get them here NOW." The King's guards went throughout the castle as fast as they could. One ran to find the guardians of the sacred book and another ran down the hall straight to Galen's room. The beating on the door startled Galen and Tira who were both sound asleep, but after hearing the news, Galen ran as fast as he could to his father's side. Then the guards whose job it was to guard the book came running after being told of the book's disappearance.

When they had all gathered before the King, it was clear that he was very angry and that something was going to happen, and it wasn't good.

"Before me is the box that houses our Holy Book, but it is empty, and I want to know why? Does anyone have anything to say?" Again, Galen was shocked to hear this and had no answer as to why the box would be empty.

"Father, the last time I saw the book was at the wedding. It would be the guard's responsibility to take the book back and put it in this box and secure it."

The King looked at the guards and was not happy. "Sire, if we may speak, but for a moment. We did as we were instructed by the Queen. We held back until everyone had left for the reception, then we went to get the book. We had also spoken with the bishop Donay earlier who had also asked for some time alone with the book before we came for it. After that time passed, we came in for the book, but it was not there. Also, your Majesty, we did find Captain Murk and his friend Corinne in the back of the chapel. We should ask them if they know anything of this."

The King looked at Galen and Galen knew what to do. He turned to one of the guards, "I don't care how many men it takes you but go get Captain Murk and his girlfriend and bring them both here as fast as you can."

"Yes sire, as you speak."

Galen turned back around to his father, "Father, I assure you, we will find the book as fast as we can. It will be back home soon ... I swear to you."

King Derek looked at his son, and the look Galen saw on his father's face was like the panic of losing someone so very dear to you. As Galen watched his father, he saw a tear roll down his face as he turned to look out the window to hide his sorrow.

It was not long before the guards came back with both Murk and his friend Corinne in tow. "Your Majesties," said Murk. "What is it that Murk can do for you? I am ready to serve you whatever I can do."

The King did not even turn around for his grief was too great. So, Galen answered Murk's question. "Murk, the Book of Beginnings is missing. The guards tell us that when they went to get the book, and put it away, it was already gone. They said they saw you and Corinne in the back of the chapel. What do you say to this?"

Murk was not surprised to hear this news, and then Corinne pulled on his arm and reached up to tell Murk something, "Murk, tell them what we saw. You have to tell them." Galen overheard Corinne's whisper to Murk. "What did you see Murk."

Murk lifted his head up and his face was full of anger also. "Why I should have gone over there and beat the life out of him. I knew he was up to no good, I knew it."

"Murk, just tell us what happened? Who did you see do what?" said Galen.

"It was the bishop. Corinne and ... well we were having a private discussion in the back of the chapel and could not be seen by the Bishop. We watched him come in and take the book off the altar and wrapped it in some old rags. I saw the book begin to turn a red color instead of its normal blue. Then the Bishop placed the book in a bag and threw the bag over his shoulder and walked out the front door. We thought he had come to take the book back to its place. We had no idea of his intentions."

Then another guard interrupted about this time. "Sire, I do know personally that the guard at the main gate whose responsibility it is to record those who come and go through the gate, says that Bishop Donay did leave the castle in a mule cart after the wedding."

After hearing this news, the King turned around. It was clear by the look on his face that his anger was still with him. "GET ME THE BISHOP DONAY."

* * * * *

Galen swore an oath to his father that they would not rest until the book was back home and safe. "Murk, you're coming with me. Kiss your lady friend one last time as it may be a while until your back home. Join me in the meeting room and send for General Tauv also." Galen stormed out the door headed for the meeting room while everyone else left the presence of the King. When the last person had left, Queen Katheryn came in the room to be with her husband and to console him.

ANSWERS FROM A MIRROR

General Tauv and Galen were both in the meeting room discussing the disappearance of the book when his longtime friend and now recently promoted Captain Murk arrived. Captain Murk had an uninvited visitor tagging alone with him, it was Myra the Fairy from Ellendale. "Murk why did you bring Myra with you and for that matter, why is Myra still here and not back home?" said Galen.

"Your majesty I didn't bring her. She insisted and would not leave me alone. How do you get rid of her is what I'd like to know?"

Myra pulled out her knife and lifted it up right in front of Murk's face so he could see it. "You don't get rid of Myra, because Myra is here to help you even if you don't know it yet." Then Myra stuck Murk on his nose.

"OUCH," said Murk. "You better hope I never catch your little fairy self, because I can make a great stew out of you."

Galen had enough of this, "Hey you two stop your fighting, or I'll send both of you out and straight to the dungeon until you can be nice to one another. I have been talking to General Tauv on how to go about finding the book and the Bishop Donay ..."

"I know ... I know." shouted Myra.

Galen was a little upset that Myra was interrupting, "You better not be playing some fairy game with us Myra. If you say you know something, then you better have something good to say that is helpful."

"But Galen, I do have something to say. I do know how you can find out about your book."

"Okay Myra, tell me what you know."

"In Ellendale when we don't know something, we always go ask the Princess. She always knows everything." "Myra, we are a long way from Ellendale, so I can't ask the Princess. Why don't you let us go on with our planning? General, I think if you take a dozen men and go to the North ..."

"I know ... I know." shouted Myra again.

Galen was even more upset this time. "Myra if you interrupt us again I'm going to send you outside."

"But I do know. Don't you want to know what I know? It will help.

"This is your last chance, so tell me and it better be good," said Galen.

So, Myra flew over and landed on the table. She looked into her bag that hung over her shoulder, "Where is it now? I know I have it." Myra grabbed something from her bag and flew down onto the floor and laid it out so they could all see it. "There you go. That is how you contact the Princess Emmy."

Murk looked really hard at whatever it was. "Why that's just a tiny little something. I think she is gone crazy your majesty. You're not going to seriously believe this, are you?"

Myra pulled out her knife again and pointed it at Murk. Galen looked hard at the tiny little something then asked, "What is it Myra?"

"Finally, you listen to me she said. It's how we fairies talk to one another. First you have to be a Fairy, and then you sprinkle some Fairy dust on it, like this." The Fairy dust landed on the small seed and suddenly the seed began to shake and the next thing everyone knew, a large object was standing on the floor before them. It resembled a mirror but at the same time it was not. The only thing that could be seen in the mirror was a mist arrayed in three dimensional colors, moving in and out of each other and constantly changing shapes and colors as it moved. "Usually, the mirror is more my size," said Myra. "But for you I added more dust to make it big enough that you could see it. It works like this." Then Myra flew up and faced the mirror and reached out to touch it. Suddenly at the spot on the mirror where she touched all the colors quickly converged and faded away until suddenly there was a clear view of Ellendale, but it was real. The wind blew across the fields and the grass and flowers swayed back and forth. Then Myra spoke to the device, "I want to speak to the Princess Emmy, please. It is important."

The live view of Ellendale suddenly began to move across the fields and over the water to the Cathedral where Galen and his men had last found the Princess, but then the image went up into the air and came to a high mountain called Mount Gillia which was the highest point in the Eastern parts of Ellendale. There it quickly found the Princess Emmy sitting among the other Princesses and Nobles of Ellendale. Emmy stood up as if she knew someone needed to talk to her. "My dear friend Myra," said the Princess. "I hear you have need of me, so how can I help you?"

"Princess there is big trouble in Ildar, and they need our help. King Galen is here with me. Can you hear him please?" Everyone in the room was shocked to see such a thing and now as they watched, in complete surprise an image of the Princess stepped through the mirror and into the room where Galen, Murk and the general were all gathered. It was the image of the Princess, but an image of light only. She turned her head and looked at everyone in the room and then focused on Galen.

"I am glad to see you again Galen, Guardian of Ildar. I have heard rumors that you are the King now?"

Galen was amazed that this image of light was talking to him. He reached out his hand and ran it through the image in amazement. The Princess just smiled and said, "It does take some getting used to I know."

Then Galen answered the Princess, "I am only a temporary King until my Father has the official ceremony, which brings me to our problem. The sacred Book of Beginnings has been stolen by a trusted Bishop. He has taken it and most likely sold it for profit. We must get the book back, but we have no idea where he may have taken it. We want to find the bishop, so he can live in our dungeon for the rest of his life. Can you help us find these two things?" "I shall help you as I did before," said Emmy. "Step closer to me Galen so I may touch you." Galen took a few steps towards the Princess until he was in reach of her. Then the Princess reached out and placed her open hand of the light on Galen's chest. There were a few moments of silence and then the Princess said, "Again, as it was before a matter of the heart. The book of which you speak is dear to you so you have a heart link to it. Now quiet yourself young King until your breath is all there is. Like a soft whisper, be calm and focus on the book." The entire room was quiet mostly in shock of what they were seeing. A few moments later the Princess said, "I see it now, your book. It glows the color of blood and those who have tried to read from it have died. It can be found among those who serve the Cloven Crest in the Black Forest Mountains."

The Princess stepped back into the mirror and as everyone watched, she walked over to her sister and spoke to her for a minute. Emmy turned around and without coming back into the room she spoke to Galen, "My sister has told me the bishop you seek has fled to the land of Cliffshire to the village of Darkfort. There he has sought out refuge, but he is deceived for it is evil that controls him. He is a good man, but the dragon uses him. Go now and find what has been taken from you. We offer you our help in keeping your Book of Beginnings safe deep in our holy mountain, if you so desire in the future. Peace be with you young King."

Then Emmy turned one last time towards the fairy Myra and smiled at her. She extended her arm out of the mirror with her palm open and facing up. As she did Myra flew up and landed in the palm of her hand and bowed her knee towards the Princess. "Myra, you represent your people well and do us great honor. I shall speak to the Fairy Counsel on your behalf and tell them of all that you do and of your bravery. You shall be rewarded for the good you have done. Be blessed Myra and prosper where you are. Also, I wish to inform you that your presence is being requested back in Ellendale. It is for a good reason that we ask for your presence back home." Myra became very happy and with much excitement in her voice, "Princess I shall come home now if it is okay with King Galen." Myra looked over at Galen hoping for a positive answer, Galen smiled at her and shook his head yes, that it was okay. Myra was so excited that she turned back to the Princess and said "I'll be there soon." Then the light from the mirror disappeared and the mirror went back to the multicolor mist. Myra was very happy at the words of the Princess.

"Did you hear what she said? She is going to tell the Fairy Counsel about me, and they want to see me in person. I bet they want to give me an award, or even have my name written in the Court of Honor ..."

Galen started to laugh at Myra's excitement, "Hold on a minute Myra, calm down and don't get a big head. Be calm. I was going to tell you that at first I didn't think you were going to be any help to us, but once again you proved me wrong and that's okay with me. Thank you for what you did. We now know more than we did when we came into the meeting, and I have some news to tell my father, all because of you. Please give my regards to the Princess when you see her. Remember Miss Myra don't be gone too long, I'm sure we will need you sooner rather than later. With that Myra took off out the window and, on her way, back home.

Galen looked back to the general, "General Tauv, make plans to march on the Kingdom of the Cloven Crest. Gentlemen it appears we are going to the Black Forest Mountains to get back what was stolen from us. We will then turn our attention towards the Bishop Donay in the Land of Cliffshire.

Just then Tira and her sister Corinne came through the doors of the meeting room and Tira spoke out, "Galen what are you doing and where are you getting ready to go? I couldn't help hearing through the door."

Galen just looked at her, "Both of you were listening at the door?"

Corinne ran over to Murk and hugged him. "Please don't leave me here. Take me with you. I will help you and not get in the way, I promise." Murk looked at her strangely, "I thought we had this worked out already, how going to war was no place for a woman. What if you got hurt, wounded, or kidnapped. Why look at what happened to your sister."

"I know, but I didn't think you were really going to go away to fight another war. I don't care about the danger. I'm going and you can't stop me."

Both Murk and Galen said at the same time "NO YOU ARE NOT."

Tira was shocked to hear her sister's passionate plea to follow the men into a battle. "Sister, what is wrong with you that you would even want to do such a thing?"

Corinne looked up at Murk with tears in her eyes, "I love you Murk and I don't want you to leave me here alone."

A tear run down Murk's face and then he gave Corinne another hug. Meanwhile Galen grabbed hold of Tira's hand and left the room saying, "You're coming with me, and I'm headed to tell Father of our plan."

A MEETING WITH FATHER

Galen and Tira found the King in his chambers with a guard outside the door. "Please tell my father that I have need to speak with him." The guard went in to announce they were outside. Moments later they were escorted into the sitting room where the King and Queen were waiting.

"So, Galen, I know it has been a short time, but do you have any information for me? I assume you do, or you would not be here."

"Well yes Father, actually I do. I know the location of the book and of the bishop."

"Then tell me what you know," said the King.

So, Galen began to tell his Father all that he knew so far. "Father, we have learned that the Book was taken to the Black Forest Mountains to the people of the Cloven Crest and most likely sold to them. I believe the bishop fled to the Land of Cliffshire in the Village of Darkfort. I believe he is seeking refuge there." Galen noticed the look on his father's face changed as soon as he heard the book was taken to the people of the Cloven Crest. The King stood to his feet and walked slowly over to the window looking over the land and the ocean.

Then turning back to face his son and stroking his beard in contemplation he said, "I remember my father King Alexius talking about the people of the Cloven Crest. He described them as good people. Their kingdom was known for its Oak Trees and fruit trees that were abundant, covering the hills on which the people lived. They were so blessed that the exporting of the fruit supported all the people of their kingdom. All Ildar benefited from how God had blessed them. They were good people as I remember.

One day my father told me that an evil presence came into their country and seduced its people so they would believe a lie. A cloud of despair and fear came over the entire land taking its toll on the very trees themselves. What was once miles of beautiful gardens where the oak trees and fruit trees were plentiful became a wasteland of dead or dying trees littering the mountains of their kingdom. All nature seemed to have succumbed to the evil. Therefore, we call it the Black Forest. The beauty of nature turned to the black muck that now drips from the branches. It has been said that no one ever comes out of that forest now.

Since that time the degree of their wickedness runs deep, but it's not the people. It is the evil that controls them. If the Book of Beginnings is indeed there, then the evil intends to use it. You my son must stop this at all costs."

Galen was shocked to hear of such things, but he knew of the evil for he had first-hand knowledge of it. The King thought hard on what they should say to the bishop Donay. Finally, he turned again to face Galen. "Many times, I have mentioned to you about the Code we live by, and you understand this. The Code is greater than any one man or King, for it is eternal. I trusted the bishop and, so it grieves me deeply that he has done this evil thing. Use any means you have Galen, but bring back the bishop so he can pay for his evil."

Galen was about to leave, but his father asked him to stay for just a few more minutes because there was something else he wanted to say to him.

FATHER'S ADVICE

"First, I want to tell you that as your Father I am very proud of the man you are becoming. It is in the midst of crisis that leaders are proven. Good leaders rise to the expectations that have been entrusted to them, and when they do, men will follow them. Great things happen and kingdoms are born. You are your own man now Galen and a darn good one at that. You my son have a natural gift to lead. In this crisis you will stand on your own two feet, and you will pay your dues and the men will follow you.

I am tired of war, and I find no pleasure in it. This is why the army needs you. I have not told you this before, but it is partially why I made you an acting King out on the field of battle. I wanted you to start learning to rule in my place. You have youth on your side, and you are eager to prove yourself. Together with your beautiful wife next to you, the two of you shall rule well."

Galen looked at Tira for a moment. She smiled and grabbed hold of his hand.

"Now as to Tira whom you have chosen, I believe you have chosen well. May you be the kind of husband that she and the children she will give you will be proud of. The rest my son ... well you will discover as you go. After forty-five years of marriage, I tell you, your mother and I"

Katheryn the Queen interrupted quickly, "Be careful my husband and choose your words wisely."

The King looked over at the Queen, sighed deeply looking at her, "Now you made me forget what I was going to say. One look at you and suddenly my mind goes blanks for the beauty I see in you. Wisdom prevails over my words, and I choose silence, which sometimes is preferred over valor." Galen and Tira started to laugh, then Queen Katheryn looked over at Tira. "Dear, let me tell you something. Sometimes a girl's best friend is a near-sighted man."

Tira laughed more and the King looked back at his wife, "Near-sighted, am I? I can still pick you out of a crowd a hundred feet away my dear."

Galen interrupted, "Father you were going to tell me about the problem at hand."

"Yes, I was son, before your mother interrupted me ... now where was I? As to this crisis which lies before us, sometime ago I had a run-in with those people of the Cloven Crest. Here is my advice to you. Use the tools that have already been given to you. You have your Blue Medallion and my sword, which was the sword of my Father given to him by the angel Zurel. Only in your darkest hour of need do you push the blue jewel and the Guardians will come to you. I know that you have already proven yourself in this matter, and you will be the King when you finish this quest. May the wisdom of the book be yours, that you discover the King you are meant to be. I lay this charge on you Galen, defeat the evil that binds the people of the Cloven Crest, and you shall save them, their land and our Book of Beginnings.

Then the King looked over at the Queen as she stood to her feet and gave her husband a hug. Then turning to her son, she said, "Galen you are my only son, I love you so much. Trust in what your Farther has told you and in what you have been given. I believe your faith will be tested more now than when you went to rescue Tira. I also believe that you will overcome. Wisdom will be your guide. You are special my son, for I see something in you only a mother can. I tell you Galen that there is a greater force in you than there is in your enemies. Now you go and be careful and come home to us and to Tira safely." She gave him a motherly kiss and then sat down again.

THE QUEST

Galen's father the King grew impatient, "Enough of this talk. I have given you my advice and it will be on your shoulders as to what you do with it. One last thing I tell you, that a wise King never leaves his home unprotected as wicked men will see the army is gone and, in your absence, will attack your home. With you gone, evil men will plunder it and take what you have. Therefore, take half of the army and go to the Black Forest Mountains. Take a smaller contingent of men and pursue the bishop Donay. Go to the Land of Cliffshire, it is several days ride and capture the bishop by whatever means is needed and bring him to me.

I will give to you this warning; I believe the Mindosians that follow the evil are in the land there. Be careful Galen, I fear they wait in secret places, for they know you will come."

TO BECOME KING

"My last word to you my son is that I should tell you something that should settle your mind about becoming King. By your works shall the people of Ildar know your true heart. Only when the Bishop Donay is back home and in our dungeon, will you have proven your worthiness to be the next King. You will have restored to the House of Wallace and the Kingdom of Ildar that which was stolen from us. Then you will be crowned King and Tira shall be your Queen. Now you have reason to go on this second quest. Go and finish what has been laid before you. Go in all power and authority that I have given you ... go in the name of the King."

Galen was amazed that what seemed like a simple thing had turned into a royal quest and adventure that he only dreamed about just a few years ago. His visions back in his school days were coming to past and as he remembered his old visions, it made him believe even more now.

"Father, as soon as provisions are made and the army is ready, I will lead them to the Black Forest Mountains. I will not return until I have the book in my hands. The wicked men of the Cloven Crest will meet Ildarian steel and justice will prevail before I am done ... and then I will go after the bishop."



Chapter Two Black Forest Mountains



MAKE READY



alen got back at the same time General Tauv walked into the meeting room. "General, I have briefed my father with the news we learned, thanks to Myra. His words to me were 'Get the book back at any

cost.' After hearing what he thinks, here is what I want you to do. First, order
every man who is able to fight to get ready for war. I want you to pick out no
more than five hundred of our best men who have no family obligations, and they
are the ones who will come with us. The other half will stay here and guard Ildar
and their families from any evil men that might want to attack our home while we
are gone. Tell the five hundred whom you pick to be ready to leave first thing in
the morning."

"Yes Sire, I will see to this immediately." And with that the general went off to gather the army of Ildar and to make ready for the soon coming war.

Galen went back to where he had left Murk and Corinne. Murk was there by himself. Galen reached out and patted him on the back, "So Murk, did you get things worked out with your girl?"

"Ya, I did. I just laid down the law and told her she couldn't go and that
was that. Sometimes you must just be firm with a woman. You got to tell it like it
is, be assertive. Sometimes a man just has to take a stand and that's that."

20 Galen was smiling while listening to all of Murk's bragging, "So ... tell
21 me, this laying down of the law to Corinne, did it work?"

Murk wrinkled his face in deep contemplation of Galen's question.
"Murk! Just tell me if you think she bought that story or not?"

As the two men walked out the door, Murk spoke his last words of the night, "I doubt it, but it made me feel good ... see you in the morning."

A LAST GOODBYE

The morning came fast. Galen said his last goodbye's to Tira as he readiedhimself to leave, not forgetting the golden armor that was given to him by Emmy

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1	the Princess of Ellendale. Tira was happy he was wearing it. She felt better
2	knowing that with it, he stood a better chance of not getting hurt and coming
3	home safe. Armed with his father's sword and the Blue Jewel Medallion, Galen
4	was confident of a victory.
5	"I will be back as soon as I can my love." A final kiss goodbye and Galen
6	left for the courtyard to begin his new quest to bring the Book of Beginnings back
7	home where it belonged.
8	
9	TIME TO LEAVE
10	The army of five hundred fighting men of Ildar gathered outside the city
11	walls waiting for Galen. Galen came out of the gate and as soon as the men saw
12	him, they all cheered and banged their swords against their shields to show their
13	support for their leader. Galen road up to take the lead and to his surprise he
14	noticed that all the men were on horses. Galen leaned over to General Tauv to ask
15	him where he managed to find so many horses.
16	"Sire, many of the men who stayed behind donated their horses so that
17	these men could ride, and we could make better time this way."
18	"I owe those men my gratitude then, for their sacrifice for their King and
19	their homeland."
20	"My Lord with your permission I will send a runner back inside the castle
21	to tell the Captain of the Guard of your thanks. I'm sure the men would like to
22	know you have recognized their sacrifice."
23	"Yes, General Tauv that would be good. Also have the runner grab some
24	extra supplies, as much as he can carry and then catch up with us."
25	Galen turned his horse to face the men and again raised his sword into the
26	air to get their attention. "Men men of Ildar, listen to me. I have spoken to my
27	Father King Derek and he has given me full authority to go after what has been
28	stolen from us and bring it home to Ildar, no matter the cost. With the help of God
29	who fights for all of us, and you men, we will accomplish what has been laid upon

us to do." With that, the men also raised their swords into the air and again a loud
cheer rose up from among them. "Today we do not go in our own name for we
should then surly fail. We go IN THE NAME OF THE KING, therefore we shall
never fail." Again, the men responded, and cheers rose up from among them and
excitement was in the air.

6 With that, Galen began the long trip to the Black Forest Mountains not 7 knowing what was waiting for him and his army. Meanwhile a lone runner broke 8 away from the rest and headed back to the castle as fast as he could with a 9 message to deliver, and extra supplies return with.

10 11

THE SWITCH

12 Tira and her sister Corinne were out in the same courtyard where the men had left. Corinne was still upset that Murk would not allow her to go along with 13 them. Her sister Tira was reminding Corinne of her experience having been 14 captured while trying to help Galen and it almost cost her life. Corinne didn't hear 15 any of Tira's warnings, but only thought of Murk and that she was certain he was 16 going to need her. Her heart desperately wanted to run after the men, but how? 17 She didn't even have a horse and they would just send her back once they saw 18 her. 19

As the two women stood talking to one another, the runner came riding back through the gate into the courtyard and right up to the ladies. "Greetings maladies. I have a message from King Galen and to gather a few more supplies then catch up with the army as soon as I can."

Tira assured the runner she would deliver the message personally if he would trust her with it. Corinne assured him also that she could help him with a few more loaves of bread or anything he felt he could carry.

The runner should out that "The King wishes to thank the brave men who
donated their horses so their brothers in arms could ride and thus we make better
time."

Tira thanked him for delivering the message and then left to deliver it to 1 the Capitan. Corinne watched her sister walk away and in seconds an idea came to 2 3 mind. "You can follow me sir and I will show you where to find a few more supplies to take back to the army." So, the runner dismounted his horse and 4 5 followed Corinne into a room, and then a second room which was considered a storage room. "You can look in here," Corinne said." Corinne looked down on a 6 7 nearby table where there was a heavy looking candle holder. She leaned over and picked it up and as the runner walked into the storage room Corinne raised the 8 9 candle holder up and stuck the man behind his head and he fell to the ground unconscious. "Oh dear," Corinne shouted. "I believe the poor man fainted due to 10 extreme tiredness. Well as long as he is just napping, I will make him more 11 comfortable and remove his armor and helmet and all this heavy stuff, so his nap 12 will be more comfortable." Corinne wasted no time in putting on the man's armor 13 and helmet even though none of it fit her. She was determined to get it on and 14 take his place. She had just finished putting everything on that she could when the 15 man started to come to and wake up, "Oh my head," said the man. 16

As he started to get up on his knees, rubbing the back of his head, suddenly ... "BANG," another blow to the head and down he went again. "Oh, I truly don't know how that could have happened again," exclaimed Corinne as she put the candle holder back on the table. "I must apologize to him ... excuse me can you hear me? I am terribly sorry if you have been injured ... you looked a little tired anyway and the nap will do you some good."

Corinne picked up some bread loaves and put them in a bag and ran back out to the waiting horse. It took some work, but she managed to get on the horse with all that armor on. Then she heard Tira calling out to wait as she came running with a response for the runner, not knowing the person on the horse was now her sister. Corinne pulled on the reigns and spun the horse around and took off as fast as she could. She road hard to catch up to the army where she blended into the rear of the column never saying a word.

WOLVES

Because everyone was on horseback, the army made good time and by late that afternoon Galen decided everyone needed a break. "General, pull the men off the road and let's make camp here for the night. Everyone must be exhausted."

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5 "I will give the command now as you have ordered," said General Tauv. 6 There was a small pool of water on one side of the road and so most of the men 7 made camp there including Murk, the General and Galen. Fires were made, and 8 the men got out some food and went about eating and relaxing for the evening. 9 Many of them began preparing for the battle they felt could come as early as the 10 next day. With the fire as the light, they began to wipe down their swords and 11 make last minute adjustments to their armor.

Everything was going normally, and as the evening grew late, some of 12 men, including the general had already laid down for the night. Murk was just 13 about to do the same, when for just a second he thought he had heard something 14 out in the darkness. Murk stood up and looked around into the night, but he was 15 sure he had heard something. Galen saw Murk and sensed something might be 16 wrong, so he too jumped to his feet. Both men pulled out their swords just in case. 17 After a minute had passed, only a faint sound of something moving out there was 18 heard. Another minute passed and then the sounds of growling and snarling could 19 20 be heard and many of the men began jumping up. A few men including the general, were too far from the rest and they never heard anything as they were 21 22 asleep.

Suddenly it all began without any more notice. Men started screaming and the sound of the wolves attacking could be heard. They were biting and pulling on the legs of the men who were screaming out for help. One of them was the general, as he could not even get to his feet. Too many wolves had a hold of him, dragging him off into the darkness. Galen tried to come to his aid but then more of the wolves came after Galen. Murk ran to his side as they were swinging their swords as hard as they could. Wolves were falling to the ground dead, but now

1 they no longer heard any sounds from the general. Several men called out to him 2 to know in which direction to run to, but it was useless. The general was gone and 3 presumed dead by the wolves. Many of the men suffered severe bites and open wounds that needed doctoring. Murk jumped into action and did the best he could 4 5 to help each man.

Murk told Galen that the attack was over. "The wolves must have been coming to this watering hole for the same reason we are here, they were thirsty. They smelled fresh meat and decided to give it a try, and they did. The general didn't deserve to go out that way. I will miss him I will."

Unbeknown to them Corinne was horrified and scared to death, but she said nothing to anyone. Guards were positioned to watch over the camp for the rest of the night and make sure nothing else happened. The wolves did not return that night.

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CORINNE

The next morning, Galen and his army of five hundred men began their 16 long journey to the Black Forest Mountains, home of the evil people of the 17 Cloven Crest. It was a three-day journey on horseback, but they finally got to a 18 point where they could see the outer edges of the Black Forest. There was a fog 19 20 that hung over it partially hiding the expanse of the forest.

Galen and Murk were up in the front of the army when a rider came riding 21 up to Murk. The rider said nothing but signaled for Murk to follow him back to 22 the end of the column of men. Murk addressed Galen. 23

"Your Majesty, for some reason this one soldier seems to want me to 24 follow him. I wonder what this is about. He sure is small and skinny for a soldier. 25 26 Maybe he should eat some of my cooking. Hold everything while I go and check this out." Murk followed the solider all the way to the back of the line. 27

28 "Okay soldier this better be good or its triple guard duty for ya. What is so important" 29

1	The rider came up alongside Murk and leaned over to the side of Murk's
2	head and kissed him right on the side of his head. "WHAT !!!" shouted Murk.
3	"WHAT DID YOU JUST DO?" Then the solider took off his helmet, and Murk
4	saw that it was Corinne. Corinne leaned over her horse again, but this time even
5	more so as did Murk and the two kissed like it was their first time just then
6	Galen had looked back and saw Murk kissing this other soldier.
7	Galen turned back around thinking to himself, "We have only been gone a
8	few days, Murk that guy has some serious problems."
9	Murk came riding up to the front to where Galen was waiting, "Galen I
10	got some bad news for ya."
11	"Murk, I don't want to hear about your issues right now."
12	"But Galen, it's not about me. We seem to have a new recruit among us."
13	As Murk told Galen the news, he pulled on the reins of the horse behind him and
14	the horse and its rider came into view of Galen.
15	"CORINNE! What are you doing here? Why where is the man that was
16	on that horse when we left?"
17	"I'm sorry Galen. I really am, but he really needed to rest and take a nap.
18	So, I took his armor and delivered the message for him."
19	Galen looked at Murk, "What is she jabbering about?"
20	"Well I think what she is saying is that she cold-conked the messenger
21	who took your message back to the castle."
22	Galen looked at Corinne, "Well Corinne, what was the reply? And where
23	are the extra supplies?"
24	Corinne was very upset now for Galen wasn't very happy to see her.
25	"Galen don't shout at me. Now you made me forget what was said. I did bring
26	back some extra bread, but I got hungry, and I've been eating the bread for the
27	last few days."
28	"Oh Corinne, now your being just like your sister Tira," said Galen. "It
29	must be a family thing."

1	Galen sat there for a few moments thinking of what would be the best way
2	to handle all this. "Well Murk, I'm trying to decide the best way to get through
3	this forest. Now that we finally see this horrible looking place, I understand how it
4	got its name and it certainly lives up to it. You have any suggestions as to how we
5	can get through it and don't ask your girlfriend either."
6	Murk was fast with his suggestion, "I say we just burn it down and
7	trample over its ashes and any evil thing in it."
8	"Really Murk? You're a captain. I would think you would have a better
9	idea than just burn it all down. Maybe you should have asked your girlfriend."
10	Murk looked at Galen and then to Corinne. "I will give it some more
11	thought," said Murk.
12	Corinne leaned over and whispered something in Murk's ear, and Galen
13	saw her. "Your Majesty I have a new idea," proclaimed Murk.
14	"Okay, tell me what Corinne said."
15	"You saw that?"
16	"Murk, just tell me, or I'll ask her myself."
17	"Yes well she suggested I mean I thought that we should send five
18	scouts into the forest and then we proceed with caution."
19	Galen shook his head in agreement, "Good idea Corinne."
20	Corinne leaned forward on her horse, so she could see Galen, "Thank
21	You."
22	Then Murk had his own comment to make, "No matter how we go about it
23	your Majesty, I believe we will have a fight on our hands."
24	"Now that, Captain Murk is something I can agree with you about."
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26	THE BLACK FOREST MOUNTAINS
27	Galen ordered Murk to first ask for five volunteers to go ahead and scout
28	out the Black Forest. It didn't take long and soon five men came riding up to the
29	front of the column where Galen and Corinne were, and Murk was right behind

them. The men looked at Corinne and then at Galen, "Guys please, it's too long to explain. Are you ready?"

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"It is our honor your Majesty to serve you in this manner. We shall go ahead into the forest and see what lies in wait and report back." With those words, the scouts rode off and into the Black Forest. Galen gave the orders to move the main body of men closer to the edge of the forest and, they moved within one hundred yards of the edge. There they waited for the scouts to return.

It was about half an hour later that Galen looked at Captain Murk, 8 "something tells me our scouts are not coming back out. Murk, I want you to take 9 Corinne into the main body of men where I believe she will be the safest. She is 10 your problem now and you see to it that she lives through this." Galen reached for 11 his sword and drew it out of its scabbard. He lifted his sword skyward and 12 shouted to all the men "This is our time. It's up to us to purge our land of this very 13 evil. Five of your brothers have already sacrificed for us. Remember them. Now is 14 the time we fight. Follow me, stay tight and watch out for one another." 15

With those few words Galen took off at a gallop and rode into the Black Forest. His army of four hundred and ninety-four men and one woman followed behind him as fast they all could go. They hadn't been in the forest for even one minute when they found the five scouts and their horses. Both horses and their riders were covered with what looked like the same black slimy sludge that was on the trees. The men and their horses were frozen in place, unable to move, but not dead.

A strange wind began to blow swiftly through the trees and the same slimy sludge began falling on Galen's army. The ones that were hit with the black goo started to stiffen up and could not move as the goo covered their entire bodies. Horses and riders came to a stop. They experienced the same fate as the scouts had suffered. Not dead, but not alive either.

The men rode as fast as they could go, but many were being hit with the black sludge. Murk used his shield to block the sludge balls coming at him, but he

couldn't reach over to help Corinne. Murk did everything he could do, and then in
a moment that would be burned into his memory, he watched as if in slow motion
as the wind blew a sludge ball that hit Corinne in the shoulder. Murk cried out in
his loudest voice, "NOOO CORINNE, NOT YOU! As so many others in Galen's
army had fallen victim to the sludge, so did Corinne and she became engulfed in
the black until she could no longer move, and her horse stopped its running as it
too became covered in the black tar substance.

8 Then from within the blowing wind, Galen heard a familiar voice, "Will
9 you once again cause men to die, or will you now read from the book that I now
10 possess?"

Galen did not bother to answer for he knew who it was. "I'm not going to let the same thing happen to Corinne that happened to Tira." Then Galen and about three hundred of his men came out the other end of the forest untouched by the black goo. Two hundred men and Corinne never made it out.

- BATTLE OF THE CLOVEN CREST
- 17 "Murk, Murk, are you here?" Galen shouted.

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18 Murk was very shaken over what happened to Corinne. "Yes, I am, but I
19 lost Corinne. I couldn't stop it and now she is like the others."

20 "Murk, have faith. I believe she and the others are not lost to us. This evil
21 is temporary and we will fight it."

Galen finally noticed that lying beyond the tree lines and the rolling hills 22 23 of the countryside were hundreds of Cloven Crest warriors standing ready to attack Galen and his small army. By now Galen was very upset and getting 24 25 angrier than he had ever been before. He held his father's sword up in the air waiting for a sign that God was on his side, but there was no sign. "Men of Ildar, 26 27 evil is here. I am not going to let it take our friends, or take our women prisoner anymore. I am going to fight and if this be my last day, then I will go out with 28 29 honor, knowing that I fought on the side of that which is right and good. Better to die for greatness, than to live in shame." All the men lifted their swords into the air and cheered with Galen. They stood with him.

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While Galen was talking to his men, he didn't notice the Cloven Crest army moving closer and by the time Galen turned and saw it, there was only one hundred yards between the two armies. This time as Galen looked at the army of the Cloven Crest, he saw something different. It reminded him of his fight with the Mindosians. Galen saw into the spirit realm and what he saw shocked him, but it also showed him what he needed to do. Galen saw evil creatures sitting on every man of the Cloven Crest, each spewing its evil slim onto him. This made the man swear and say curses to each other and even to God himself. He saw the problem was not the men, but the evil that plagued this realm. There was only one way to fight this evil. Galen reached up and pushed the jewel on the sword and instantly a brilliant blue light shot out from his sword temporarily blinding all the enemy.

Within only a minute of Galen's call for help, the clouds began to flicker,and lights could be seen in and out of the clouds.

"Look up men and see the God you serve. He fights for us." The men all
looked up into the sky saw the lights weaving in and out of the clouds and
suddenly they all broke into cheers and praises to God. "In the face of
overwhelming danger, look up," shouted Galen.

Then all that could be seen where the Guardians. They were like lightning moving in and out of the battlefield knocking the demonic devils from the backs of the men of the Cloven Crest. The evil creatures didn't give up so easily and before they let go of their victims, they threw them to the ground. Each man let out a scream as he was thrown to the ground. The demons ran off as the Guardians beat them with their swords.

Galen now understood what he should do. He did not want to kill the men
of the Cloven Crest. He felt he had been given a Holy glimpse of a better plan.
Galen now felt he was sent to the Black Forest Mountains to save the people, not

to kill them. The Cloven Crest men, although now free of the demonic presence 1 that had been tormenting them, still believed they were there to fight Galen. Galen 2 3 needed to do something that did not involve killing anyone. Galen turned to his own men saying, "Men we cannot kill these who we believed were our enemy. I 4 now believe they are not the enemy. They are like we are with families, and they 5 too are a part of the Kingdom for which we serve. These you see before you are 6 7 the victims. Protect yourselves, but do not kill any of them. What we seek is behind them and they block our passage still believing we are here to kill them. 8 9 Follow me, and again see God's hand."

With great faith Galen then pointed his sword towards the men of the 10 Cloven Crest and pushed the blue jewel again. Though there were still Guardians 11 present, their job was already done. They stayed to see God's work in this matter 12 fulfilled. Galen pointed his sword ahead of himself and his men. This time 13 something different happened. The glow of a soft blue shield formed on the tip of 14 his sword, from the ground to above the heads of all the men. It covered all of 15 Galen's army. Galen began to charge towards the enemy and all his men formed 16 behind him. As Galen got to the leading edge of the Cloven Crest men, the blue 17 shield began pushing them back and away from Galen's army. A path had been 18 made, keeping both armies away from each other so no one was injured or killed. 19

Galen finally got to the other side of the field and to a large stone structure that was built into a mountain. As he jumped down from his horse he shouted at Murk "This has to be where the Book of Beginnings is. Come with me and let's take back what belongs to us."

Galen put his sword away and to his surprise the blue shield separating the two groups of men stayed in place. Galen and Murk both ran into the stone building hoping for the best.

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1	THE BOOK OF BEGINNINGS
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2	Not far into the stone opening they came to a door that Galen kicked wide
3	open. Galen and Murk ran in with their swords raised ready for whatever they
4	might find. To Galen's surprise, there bigger than life was his old enemy the
5	dragon. Three men lay dead on the floor in front of a table that the Book of
6	Beginnings was sitting on. For the first time in his life Galen saw the book
7	glowing red. Murk said out loud, "Galen looks at the book. What is wrong with
8	it?"
9	"This is not good," said Galen. "It has to be because of the presence of
10	evil. These men who lay here dead must have tried to read from the book, no
11	doubt for the dragon." Galen looked at the dragon and yelled at him, "You killed
12	these men, didn't you? You are a liar and a thief. You made them try to read
13	knowing they would die."
14	The dragon let out a loud horrible roar that could be heard outside and the
15	men of the Cloven Crest fell face down on the ground in fear. They knew what
16	that sound was. Many of their friends have been killed by its owner.
17	"I am not afraid of you dragon, and you have no power here. If you think I
18	came all this way to read for you, then you have made a big mistake. If it be
19	possible, then I come to kill you."
20	Just then the dragon reached for the book on the table, but this time Galen
21	and Murk were close enough to the table and the dragon that they both swung
22	their swords at him. Murk hit him, and Galen's blade hit his hand that reached out
23	for the book. The dragon reared up and screamed out sounds that came only from
24	the very pit of hell. Murk's blade found its mark a second time and the beast
25	yelled out again and then vanished into thin air. Galen and Murk were the only
26	two alive in the room. The book stopped glowing red.
27	Just then a Guardian came through the walls and into the room, "I see that

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you have conquered the dragon, at least for now. Take the book outside for all the

men to see and do not let it touch the ground." Then the Guardian walked right through the walls to the outside.

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Within a few minutes Murk and Galen emerged from the rock covered cave holding the book. All the men cheered with their swords lifted to the sky above. As they did, the blue shield that separated them from the men of the Cloven Crest vanished. Galen stood there holding the book, not knowing what else to do. He wanted all the men to see the book for it was this book they had fought for so many times.

A few minutes passed when the book began to glow once again, this time 9 it was that familiar blue glow. A mist began to come out this time and it flowed 10 down from the book onto the ground covering all the land as far as the eye could 11 12 see. Everyone was unable to move not knowing what to think of this. They did not feel afraid. The blue mist covered the ground for a several minutes and then 13 vanished. All that had been dead dry ground void of any life was now restored to 14 lush green grass and meadows of flowers as far as could be seen. All that it 15 touched was healed. 16

There was great rejoicing at this sight. As they continued to watch the book, a small blue sphere formed above the book and above Galen's head. The sphere grew and then suddenly and in complete silence it exploded and sent a blue wave of light throughout the land. It permeated all the land from the Black Forest to the small villages where the homes of the people were. The women and the children came out and ran to their men, their husbands, and their fathers. Without saying a word, Galen and his men saw the healing that was happening.

As Galen and his men were witnessing the reunion going on in the village, there was a loud noise from the Black Forest. The sound of cracking like that of old bones finally getting to stretch and move could be heard. Sounds never heard before now came from the trees as the black slimy sludge began to fade away. The mighty oaks and various fruit trees now stood upright again with marvelous colors returning to their leaves. All the trees began to bloom in sight of the people

as they watched with much gladness. The fruit trees also began to produce after
their own kind until there was fruit in abundance throughout the Kingdom of the
Cloven Crest. All the animals and all the humans that had been trapped in the
forest were now free and alive. All the men of Galen's army and their horses now
came walking out of the forest and rejoined their brothers. They all greeted each
other with hugs, laughter and rejoicing.

Murk ran into the middle of all those who came out of the forest, his eyes
going back and forth looking hard for the one who he desired the most to see.
Then suddenly, Corinne emerged walking her horse out of the forest and headed
straight for Murk. As soon as Murk saw her, he began to run to her and they both
fell into each other's arms. This time, in plain sight of everyone, and all his
buddies in the army, he kissed Corinne and spun her around in circles. The men
all cheered and banged on their shields in agreement with Murk.

The Book of Beginnings had one last miracle to perform. Everyone now 14 had their eyes glued on the book as it began to glow again. As everyone watched, 15 as the image of a man could be seen in the light of the book. For a moment 16 people gasped at what they were seeing. A voice came from out of the book that 17 was pleasant and calming, but at the same time could be heard clearly by all the 18 people around. The Spirt of the book began to speak. "What has been taken from 19 you has been restored. The evil that has for so long ruled you by its lies and 20 deceptions has been cast out. You are free now. Forever shall you go the way of 21 Ildar. Be vigilant that you not fall for the lies that have in days past ruined your 22 kingdom. As long as you serve the One who gives life, you shall always be free." 23 Then the light faded away and the book became silent. 24

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THE HERO ... GALEN

All the people began to come in closer to Galen and gather around to hear what he
might have to say. "People of the Kingdom of the Cloven Crest, I am Galen
Wallace, heir of the throne of my father King Derek and his father King Alexius,

who was the founder of all the land of Ildar and for whose name sake our castle is 1 also named. I tell you to seize this moment and make something great out of it. 2 3 Build for yourselves and your generations to come a peaceful land to which you can live and raise your families. The Spirit of the Book has restored your land and 4 your fruit trees, so you again have means of trade and commerce with the rest of 5 Ildar. You will be prosperous as long as you serve the God of the Book of 6 7 Beginnings, of which you have seen today. Remember how He healed your land, your villages, your forest, and the fruit trees. 8

9 I shall tell my father of all that has happened here today, and he will be
10 well pleased. Now I shall take my men and head home so you good people can
11 get back to your lives and be happy once again."

The women were thankful that Galen did not kill their men and the men were thankful that the evil that controlled them was now gone. They all together gave a loud cheer to Galen and all the people were very happy. Then the women threw flowers towards Galen and his men as a sign of their gratitude.

There was one of the people whose name was Hanh. He was long time friends with Galen though they have not seen each other since their days in school. Hanh stepped up to the front of all the people and shouted out to everyone "People hear me ... You all know who I am and have been in this village many years. You knew me, and know my intentions are true and that I would never stand to give a speech. But today, at this moment, I am compelled to speak. I wish to make a few suggestions in the light of today's events."

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"What do you want us to do?" shouted one man from out of the crowd.

24 "People, because we have been saved from certain death, I for one do not
25 want the memory of what has happened here to linger on constantly haunting me.
26 I propose a name change from the "People of the Cloven Crest," to the "People of
27 the Royal Crest. It is a good honest name that will reflect the people we are now."
28 Some of the men thought that name didn't portray the rough and rugged awesome
29 people they felt they were, but they soon changed their minds when their wives

grabbed ahold of their ears and twisted them. Then suddenly they began to shout their approval to change the name. Then all the ladies smiled. From that time forward, it was said in the talk within the village, even to this present day, that, "If the ladies aren't happy, no one is happy, and when the ladies are happy, everyone is happy." On that day in the new land of the Royal Crest the women were happy.

Then Hanh spoke up again, "As to my second suggestion, I believe we 6 7 should take a vote by the raising of the hand. I would like to honor the one who came here and saved us by virtue of his courage and faith. We shall make a place, 8 and in this place, we shall put a stone. On the stone, we shall carve into it the 9 story of what happened here today. I suggest we proclaim Galen Wallace the 10 11 future King of Ildar, as the official Hero of the People of the Royal Crest." With that all the people shouted in agreement to make Galen the official hero of their 12 villages. It was getting late, so Galen decided it was best to stay in the village that 13 night and let the men and Corinne have a night to rest and visit with the local 14 people. 15

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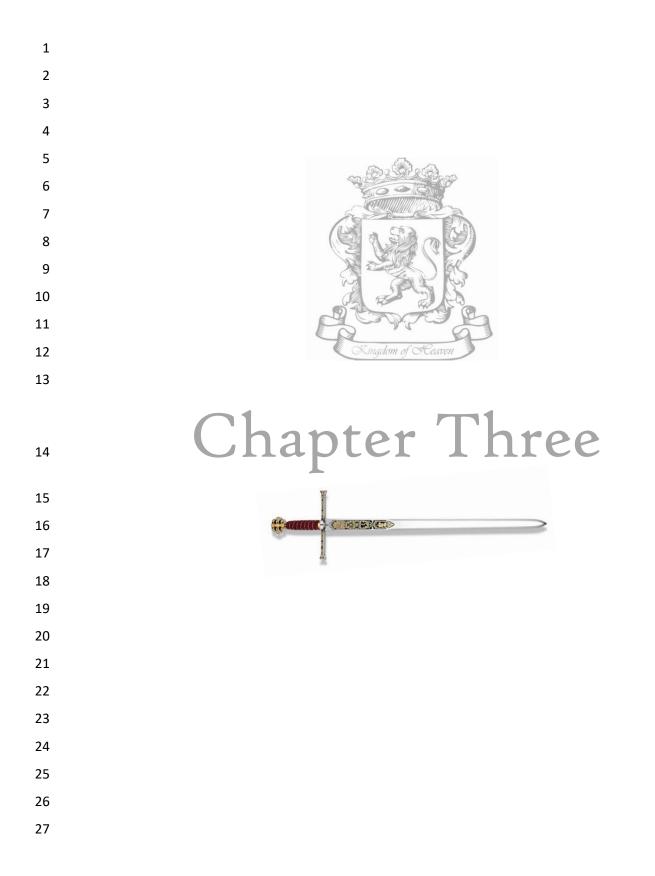
23

GOING HOME

The morning came soon enough, and as everyone began to start moving around, a group of villagers lead by Galens old friend Hanh came to Galen with three mule carts full of fruit from the trees that had healed during the night. "Your majesty, the people of the village came to me asking that I present to you a gift from them. They wish to send back with you an offering of thanks to your father King Derek. Will you be so kind as to accept them in his name?"

Galen was happy to see the three carts full of fruit. He reached in and picked up an apple and bit into it. "Not only will I accept this in my father's name, but my men and I will enjoy some of it on the journey back home." At that, all the men crowded around the cart and helped themselves to the fruit. It turned out to be a good breakfast for them.

1	After some time, Galen gave the orders, and everyone got ready to leave.
2	Goodbyes were said and promises made and before long they started on the three-
3	day journey home. There was one more thing on Galen's mind that needed to be
4	avenged before they got home.
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1	AVENGING OF THE GENERAL
2	After two days Galen's army got back to the place where they had
3	encountered the wolves that had killed General Tauv. Galen stopped and looked
4	out over the field trying to see if the body of the general was anywhere to be
5	found. "Captain Murk," shouted Galen. "Come up here and talk to me."
6	"Murk I'm sure you remember this place?"
7	"Yes I do your Majesty. And I bet I know what you might be thinking
8	too."
9	"And what would that be," asked Galen.
10	"We need to avenge the general and rid all of Ildar of these beasts. No one
11	knows how many people these wolves have attacked and dragged off."
12	Galen looked over at Murk, "That's exactly what I was thinking and I
13	know just the right man to do it too."
14	Murk looked over at him in wonderment and then asked, "And who would
15	that be your Majesty?"
16	Galen just smiled and said, "Murk, I want you to take as many of the
17	archers as you feel you will need and one hundred men and go hunt those
18	creatures down and kill all of them. If you find the general's body, then give him
19	a proper burial, but do not mark it, that way no one can disturb him again and he
20	truly can then rest in peace."
21	Murk was happy to have such a great task given to him. "Any man here
22	would be proud to do this for Ildar and for the general. You know they loved
23	him."
24	"I know Murk and this is why I'm letting them go to have their revenge
25	for his death. Maybe in this they can find some release. It is important I believe."
26	So Murk rode back among the men and called out for volunteers to go.
27	Everyone wanted a chance to hunt down the wolves. One hundred men and all the
28	archers quickly pulled away from the main body of men.

Galen and the rest of the men with Corinne made camp along the bank of the lake as they had before. This time Galen posted more than enough guards in case another enemy found them, but Murk and his group of men and archers went wolf hunting.

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TO HUNT A WOLF PACK

7 Hunting was something Murk knew a lot about, especially wolf hunting and called over the men he had selected, "This is going to actually be fun men. 8 Everyone loves to hunt, especially hunting these wolves because these are the 9 ones who killed our general. This is going to be a challenge because wolves are 10 smart, but we are smarter." Off in the distance there were some cliffs overlooking 11 the flatland and the lake where they had been ambushed by the wolves the first 12 time. "You archers go up onto the cliffs there you will have a good view of the 13 land and the wolves as they come to the lake for water. We're not going to let 14 them get to the water. If you don't stay downwind of them then they will know 15 we are here. There are no real places to hide out here, so everyone be alert. When 16 the wolves come, I will have a fire arrow shot into the air as a signal. That's when 17 you archers will begin firing your arrows down on the wolf pack. The rest of us 18 will charge the wolves and kill them with the sword. Archers, be careful not to 19 20 shoot us, just the wolves. Now go get into your places. You men spread out and stay in small groups. If you have any problems wave your sword in the air and 21 help will come." 22

The men spread out and the archers went up to the cliffs and laid down on them, so they couldn't be seen by the wolf pack when they arrived. Everyone was set. All they had to do was to wait till late afternoon when the wolves would come to get water. Murk took one archer and went to a high place so he could see when the wolves were coming.

Three hours later the patience of the men paid off. Murk saw some wolves come into view followed by the main pack. Murk waited and watched. When he thought that all the wolves were now out in the open and fully exposed, he signaled for his archer to light an arrow and fire it into the air.

Across the sky the signal was seen by all the men. The archers stood to their feet and as a group aimed into the sky. Altogether the men fired their bows and a volley of arrows rained down on the wolf pack. A large number of the wolves fell to the ground dead and many more were wounded. Howling in pain they were now even more dangerous. One more volley of arrows came down on the wolves before the men came charging in on foot with swords in hand. All the foot soldiers found a target as blood splattered everywhere and soon every wolf lay dead on the ground.

11 The men looked around until they were sure there were no more wolves to 12 be killed. Everyone began to cheer with their bowes and their swords lifted into 13 the air. Every man cheered that this evil was now forever vanquished from their 14 homeland.

As the men cheered, a wind began to blow over the land that was now littered with the dead bodies of wolves. The sun was just about to set for the evening when a balmy and eerie feeling came over everyone, even in Galen's camp. Galen seemed to feel it the most as he said to everyone there, "I believe the wolves are dead now. I think we have awakened something that is not good." Rumblings and groaning's could be heard in the darkened clouds above them. Galen said out loud, "Now this doesn't look good."

After the killing of the wolves, the men scouted around and found the torn body of their beloved General Tauv. They dug a grave and buried their friend in it. As they gathered around, a few men spoke on behalf of the general. The sky did not look good, and Murk wanted to hurry back to Galen and Corinne and hoped all was good in the camp.

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THE WARNING

That night there were many campfires as the men made themselves some 2 3 food and sat around talking about the wolf hunt. Galen stood up and called all the men to listen to him for a moment. "Men of Ildar, we have fought two battles on 4 5 this quest. My heart is glad that we have rid Ildar of these savage beasts that have taken many of our countrymen to their deaths. You have stopped evil today, so be 6 7 glad in that." The men hit their shields with their swords in agreement with the words of Galen. "Know this, that God fights with us and we shall be victorious in 8 9 everything we do in the name of the King." Again, the men hit their shields shouting in agreement with Galen. Then the wind returned and blew into the fire 10 11 causing it to crackle and sparks flew out onto everyone. As everyone in the camp looked on, suddenly from out of the fire came a familiar image, one Galen knew 12 only too well. The image of a dragon appeared in the fire. 13

Corinne screamed at the sight of the dragon, remembering what her sister Tira had told her of this dragon. Her scream caught the eye of the dragon and he turned his head and looked at only her. "You are the sister … hum," said the Dragon looking at Corinne as he seemed to be contemplating how he might make use of her.

The Dragon turned back towards Galen who had already reached for his 19 20 sword. "Again you have the book which you have stolen from me and now you have killed my pets also. Believe me boy, I will have my revenge and you will not 21 be able to stop me next time. I no longer have need of the book for which you 22 love so dearly. I seek REVENGE and it is coming. You take what is not yours. It 23 was my book, they were my people. Like pets they were happy to serve me. There 24 is a shaking coming to the land of Ildar and to those who have helped you. It is 25 26 coming soon." Then the Dragon vanished, and everything was back to normal.

27 Corinne was visibly shaken over the Dragon coming so close to her,
28 "Galen, I'm horrified at what I saw when the dragon looked at me so closely. I
29 saw its eyes, and I saw nothing but evil. How did Tira live through this? If this is

1	what you are hunting, then I believe I'll stay home next time. You don't have to
2	worry about me anymore."
3	Galen walked over to Corinne and put his hand on her shoulder, "You will
4	be safe Corinne; just like Tira you will be safe."
5	The next morning the army broke camp and headed home. There was not a
6	lot of talking because everyone was focused on the words of the Dragon.
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8	BACK HOME
9	Galen and his men finally got home and everyone went back to their
10	families. Galen and several guards brought the Book of Beginnings back to his
11	father who watched as the royal guards put the book back into its box. The
12	Zephaniah stones caused the book to vanish as if nothing was there. It was hidden
13	from evil hands and the deeds of evil men.
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15	CORINNE'S MOMENT
16	Meanwhile Corinne gave the armor she had taken to Murk who promised
17	to get it back to the man she had knocked out. But first Murk felt there was
18	something more important to talk to Corinne about. "Corinne, I just wanted to tell
19	you that I've been doing a lot of thinking since we got back. It scared me badly
20	inside when you got hit by the black goo in the Black Mountain Forest. It really
21	tore my heart out because that should have been me, not you. When you and all
22	the others suddenly came back to us, I was happier than I have ever been in my
23	life. If I didn't know it before, then I certainly understood it then, and that is that I
24	love you." Murk couldn't hide the few tears that ran down his face as he held
25	Corinne's hand. Corinne saw the tears and reached up and wiped them away.
26	"You big lug you. That was so sweet of you to say such words to me. Why
27	no one has ever spoken words of love to me before. So, I would be a foolish
28	woman to ignore them. If you haven't noticed before now, then I'm just going to
29	come right out and tell you. I care about you Murk, in fact I love you too."

1 2 Murk bent down and gave Corinne the biggest kiss the girl had ever been given in her life. "It seems to me then, that if we love each other then we should get married, so we can start to live happy ever after. What do you think?"

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Corinne stood up with both hands over her mouth, basking in the moment of a real live proposal. "Why Murk I am shocked and so happy all at the same time. I think it's a great idea." Her happiness grew so much that it was hard to contain it. Many things ran through her head. Who would she tell first and when would they actually get married? She bent down and gave Murk another big kiss and shouted "YES, I will marry you Murk." Then without saying another word, she ran straight to her sister Tira with all the news. She had so much to tell her.

Murk sat there alone in a dark place. "Hum isn't this strange? I ask a girl to marry me and she runs away, but I think it's all good. Not sure how to tell her I must leave again. We still need to go get the Bishop. Well I guess I'll tell her later."

ANOTHER MEETING WITH FATHER

The next day Galen and Murk met with the King. Tira and Corinne were
invited to come and listen in. "Father I have much to report to you today."
"So I have heard some of it already and it sounds good to me. You did well son,
go ahead and give me the official version."

21 "Father, to my great joy I can tell you that the people of the Cloven Crest
22 are safe from the evil that controlled them. Their forest is now free of the evil that
23 controlled it. The Guardians came and fought the evil off the men and as soon as
24 that happened, the men lost their will to fight. I did recover the book, but at the
25 same time had another encounter with the dragon."

26 Tira spoke up in fear, "Was it the same dragon that made me its prisoner?
27 Galen looked at Tira, "Yes dear, there is only one dragon and I think he
28 misses you."

Tira shouted back, "You watch your tongue Mr. Galen, or that king size bed you have will be missing its king tonight." Galen's father and mother turned their heads and chuckled for a moment.

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"Okay you two ... save it for later. What else happened," said the King.

"As I was saying, Murk and I fought the dragon until it vanished. I 5 grabbed the book, but a Guardian came to me and told me I needed to take it 6 7 outside. When we were outside, the book came alive and a mist came out of it and a light. The book healed the land and the grass and flowers came back before our 8 very eyes. The black goo that had been killing the forest suddenly disappeared 9 from off everything. The trees, the fruit trees, the people and half of my army 10 11 including Corinne came back to life. The book healed the trees and gave life back to my men and Corinne." 12

Tira looked over at her sister, "You never told me this part. You actually died out there in that horrible black forest? Oh sister, I just blame myself for being a poor example to you. Look at what happened to me and then you died in a pile of black goo in the forest. Father will never forgive me, when he hears this he will be so angry with me. It is my station, my duty to watch over Corinne and I failed."

"Tira please," said Galen. "Try to save the drama till after I give my report
to father." Tira was so upset she quickly sat down and put her hands over her face
in disbelief.

22 Corinne went over and sat next to Tira, putting her arm around her for
23 comfort, "Tira please, it wasn't so bad dying. I mean I didn't feel a thing."

Upon hearing her sister's words of her dying, Tira's mouth fell open and her eyes opened wide in disbelief of what she just heard. Tira's anxiety was now worse than just a minute ago as she yelled out, "And that's supposed to make it all better?" Tira's face suddenly turned red and the next thing everyone knew she passed out onto the floor right in front of the Queen.

1	"Oh my," said the Queen. "Tira is quite the fainter, isn't she? Well there
2	could be another possibility, Tira may be expecting."
3	Corinne bent over to care for her sister, but looked up at the Queen,
4	"Expecting what?" A moment later "you mean a baby?"
5	Galen looked over at his mother, "I'm sure Tira will be okay, she is not
6	with child. She is just tired."
7	Galen turned back to his dad and continued. "The book healed the land
8	and the people. There is one more thing well it is part good, but mostly bad."
9	The King looked at his son as he stroked his beard. "Well say it son,
10	unless Murk is going to tell me what is it?"
11	"Father, the good part is that we lost only one man in all of this. The bad
12	part is that it was General Tauv whom you loved very much." This time his father
13	looked deeply hurt to hear this news and Galen's mother the Queen was shocked
14	for she knew the general very well. About this time, Tira woke up and sat in the
15	chair again trying to fix all her clothes.
16	"But father, on our way back home just two nights ago we camped for the
17	night in the same place where the wolves killed the general. We laid in wait for
18	them. Captain Murk and his men and archers attacked the wolf pack and killed all
19	the wolves. I believe these wolves have been responsible for killing our citizens.
20	Then that night as we sat around the open fire the dragon came in the midst of the
21	fire."
22	Tira looked up at Galen and listened carefully to his words, "The Dragon
23	first focused on Corinne and moved very close to her, looking her in the eyes. He
24	said something about her being the sister."
25	Tira couldn't take hearing that news that the Dragon almost took her
26	sister. Memories of what happened to her quickly raced through her mind, she
27	saw herself again laying on the floor dirty and her clothes ripped and torn, chain
28	like an animal. I few seconds later she passed out onto the floor again. The Queen

was already positioned to help Tira. So with the help of Corinne the two of them

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went back to work getting Tira to wake up again. The Queen was certain, a baby 1 was the cause of this fainting, but she didn't say any more. 2

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"What did the Dragon say," said the King

"Father, after he looked real hard at Corinne he focused on me and called the wolves his pets, and that I had killed them. He swore revenge and that there was a shaking coming to land of Ildar, and promised it was coming soon."

The King stood up and it was clear he contemplated what they might do next. "Galen, there is still the issue of the Bishop Donay, I still want him."

"Father, I have thought about this for a few days and here is my 9 suggestion. First, I believe time is against us since we do not know the Dragon's 10 next move. A large army of men takes time and requires a lot of supplies to be 11 fast. I want to take the group of men who were given the golden suits of armor in 12 Ellendale. These men and I can travel quickly, and I believe we can capture the 13 Bishop. This is going to sound strange I know, but I think our friend Myra, the 14 little fairy should come along also." 15

Murk looked up and rubbing his nose he said, "That little fairy fly has a 16 sharp knife for sure, even so she has helped us in the past. I say yes! 17

Galen looked at Murk rubbing his nose and smiled. "Father, I believe she 18 is back in Ellendale with the fairy council. I'm not sure how to let her know to 19 20 come back."

The King looked at his son, "Leave that to me. I will fix it so that she joins 21 22 you as soon as possible. Now, if Tira has recovered, then take your wife and spend a few days with her. Forget about war and enjoy yourselves. Murk, I 23 suggest the same for you, that is if you have a lady friend..." 24

Corinne heard the words of the King and perked up at his comment and 25 26 then looked straight at Murk hoping he would say something now. Murk started to nervously speak up, "Well you're Majesty that reminds me of something I wanted 27 28 to say. It seems to me, to be a good time especially since Galen and Tira are here." Tira had recovered and was sitting up again. "Well ... after all that 29

1	happened on this last quest to the Black Forest Mountains, I realized and then I
2	ahh."
3	Corinne couldn't take the waiting any longer and jumped up and finished
4	Murk's words, "What Murk is trying to say is that he asked me I agreed and
5	now we want to get married."
6	Now all this came as a complete surprise to Tira, "I am so happy for you
7	sister." And the two sisters gave each other a big hug.
8	Galen then spoke up, "Murk, when are you two planning on doing this?
9	We leave to go after the bishop in two days."
10	Murk wanted to say when we get back, we will have a time in mind, but to
11	his surprise Corinne quickly blurted out the official answer. "We would like to do
12	it now while he is home so we can have a few days also. I don't need a big
13	wedding like Tira had. I just want someone to marry us as soon as possible."
14	Murk looked like he had just been run over by a heard of wild horses. He just
15	stood there looking shocked.
16	Galen told Corinne that there was a Holy man available to marry them if
17	this is what they wanted. Murk needed to let him know when they were ready to
18	do it. Corinne pulled on Murk, and he turned around and walked with her out of
19	the King's meeting chambers and down the hall. Tira did wake up again and this
20	time Galen held onto her and helped her get to their living quarters so she could
21	lay down and they could talk. The Queen turned to her husband the King and
22	reached up and gave him a kiss on the cheek, "You always have the answers dear.
23	That's why I love you so much."
24	The King looked at his wife, "And here I've been thinking it was because
25	I was so irresistibly handsome."
26	"That too," she said.
27	"Katheryn," said the King
28	"Yes Mr. Handsome."

"Do you remember where I put that special mirror Princess Emmy of 1 2 Ellendale gave me? The one she said to use if we ever needed to contact her? I 3 suddenly need it." 4 5 MRS. MURK Though Murk was surprised at how Corinne spoke up so quickly, he 6 7 didn't try to stop her wedding plans. He almost lost her once, and it made him realize just how much he really did love her. Even if it was quickly thrown 8 9 together, a wedding is still a wedding and Corinne was so happy. Murk was glad to see real happiness in her and he was not going to mess that up. 10 11 Only one hour had gone by when Corinne came running back to find Murk. "Murk, you need to get yourself all dressed up and look your best. I found 12 everything we need, and we can get married now." 13 "You mean like right now?" 14 "Yes, right now Murk, so hurry." 15 "But what about my bachelor party with the guys?" 16 "You can do that after you leave to get the bishop, but for now go get 17 yourself dressed, and HURRY." So, Murk took off to go find some good clothes 18 but he realized he didn't own any. There was only one thing to do if he had to get 19 20 dressed up, he had to go borrow from the other men. Murk went and explained it all to his buddies and they were more than happy to loan him some clothes even 21 though they were not as big as Murk. Having everything now that he needed, 22 Murk ran back to tell Corinne he was ready. 23 "Murk, I'm glad you found some clothes, but I would be happier if you 24 were wearing them for the wedding, now will you please go put them on, and then 25 come to the chapel." 26 27 So Murk did as she said and went to change into the borrowed clothes.

Everything he had borrowed was a tight fit. The shirt pulled over his head but tore open in the back as he tugged and pulled it down over his body. The collar was

too tight, but with a tug here and there and a small tear appeared. "There, now I 1 2 can breathe," he said. The front of the shirt looked like it had been stretched to its 3 limits and would have made it difficult for him to move if it wasn't for the back of the shirt tearing away. The sleeves weren't big enough so Murk made his own 4 5 adjustment by tearing off both sleeves and throwing them on the ground. The last hurdle was the shoes, everything would be good except it seemed they just were 6 7 not long enough. Murk's quick fix for that was to chop off the toe of the shoes so his big foot could poke through. "My toes could use a good airing out" he 8 9 thought. He was willing to do anything and get into the clothes if it made Corinne happy. Finally, in the traditional Murk fashion statement he declared himself 10 11 ready. Off he went to the chapel and as he walked through the doors all eyes immediately went to him. Corinne's mouth was as wide open as her eyes were as 12 she beheld her true love. 13

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"Murk, what happened to you? Did you get attacked on your way here? Your clothes are a wreck you poor thing."

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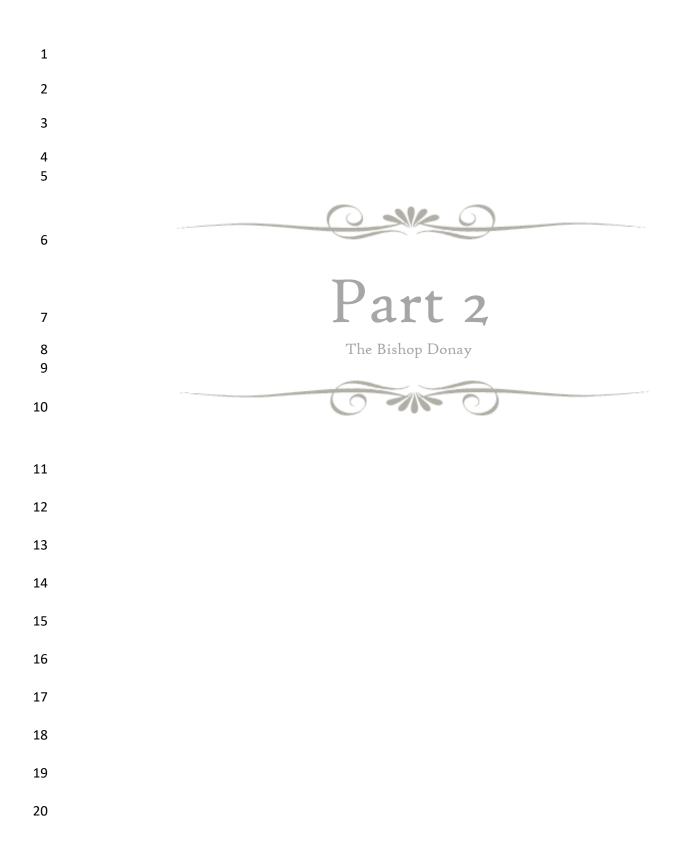
Murk tried to respond, "Yes ... well I was ..."

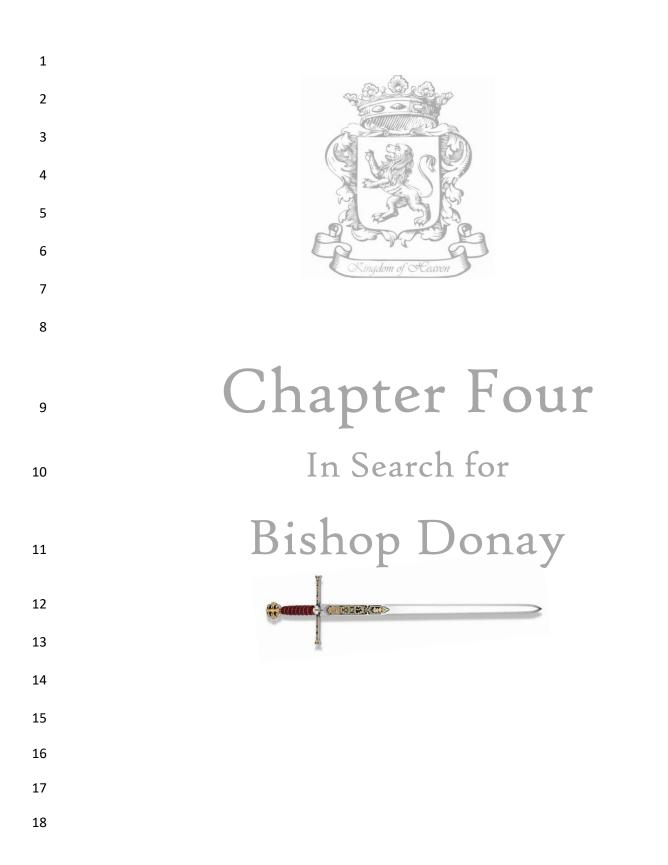
Corinne interrupted, "its okay darling you don't have to explain. Are you
hurt? We will deal with it later, right now all that matters is that you're here and
safe."

Murk smiled a little, glad that he didn't have to explain the clothes, for now everything was great. He leaned over to Corinne and spoke softly to her, "You are looking beautiful for only having a few hours to prepare. Are you happy?"

Corinne looked over at him and smiled very big, "Yes I am very happy, I love you Murk." Murk smiled at Corinne and then looked at the minister, he was ready.

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TIME TO LEAVE



few days had passed and Galen was ready to get moving on this last quest to find the fugative the Bishop Donay. Galen hand picked the same ten men that had gone with him to Ellendale and received the golden armor. Altogether with Murk and himself their group were made up of twelve men on horseback. Now they could travel fast and he was positive they would be victorious in finding the Bishop and bringing him home. Early on the third morning the twelve men all gathered in the courtyard, with an extra horse to carry supplies and extra food.

11 "Gentlemen," Galen called out. "It is time to leave so kiss your women goodbye. I promise it will be a short trip, for our resolve is a Holy one and we 12 shall make Ildar proud. Now come join me and join your metal with mine in a 13 circle swords held high." The men were ready, everyone already wearing the 14 golden armor given them in Ellendale. They came together and lifted their swords 15 16 in the air touching the tips of the swords they shouted out "For God, the King and the Kingdom of Ildar." A last kiss for the ladies and the twelve mounted their 17 horses. It was time to go. A final wave good bye and the men turned their horses 18 around and headed out the gate of the courtyard. It would take several days travel 19 to get to the land of Cliffshire. They neither spared anything nor lacked resolve to 20 find the Darkfort Village and the Bishop. 21

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EVIL SETS A TRAP

Evil never takes a day off nor does it ever take a break. After the Dragon 24 lost the Book of Beginnings to Galen he sought only to avenge himself. So he 25 made an evil plan to ruin Galen's quest. 26

The Mindosian army had long ago invaded and captured the village of Darkfort 27 which lay just outside the boarders of the realm of Ildar in the land of Cliffshire. 28

1 On the Northern edge of Darkfort stood a small unfinished castle, many years 2 before part of it was destroyed by the fighting between the people who lived there 3 and the evil. The castle was left a dark and forboading place that no one ever 4 wanted to see the inside of. Now it was home to all of the evil of the land. Here 5 the Dragon had his generals stationed and the most loyal of the evil generals was 6 the one they called Anu.

Suddenly in a fit of anger the Dragon yelled and fire came out of him. He demanded a meeting with his leaders and the demons came running, "Yes master, you called?"

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"I have a plan and it will work, or you will wish you had never been created. Bring me the Mindosian General I have need of him."

It was not long before the demons of the underworld brought General Markos of the Mindosian army to see the Dragon and his Gerenal Anu was with him. The Dragon lowered his head and looked into the face of General Markos and said, "I have a plan and I need the best men you have. Do you think you can find me fifty brave men from among your pathedic army to do a simply task for me?"

18 The General was nervious for the sight of a Dragon was intimadating to 19 say the least, and his General Anu was also a scary looking creature for anyone to 20 look at. "Why yes I can pull out fifty men quickly, what would you have them to 21 do, your majesty?"

The Dragon then told both gererals his plan and how they would defeat the young Galen and his men and ruin the Kings plans. After he was finished General Markos left to go find his fifty volenteers. The Dragon turned to his own General Anu, "I have no faith in this Markos and anyone he can find in his weak little army. I want you to take charge of these men the general finds. Markos answers to you and you answer to me. Now go and make sure the plan succeeds and bring me back prisioners, or General Markos is a dead man."

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2	THE MAN ON THE ROAD
3	Galen and his small band of men had been gone from Alexius for two days
4	and had so far seen no sign of trouble. Galen was secretly hoping the entire quest
5	would be this easy. As the small group of men rounded the corner of the road they
6	noticed off in the distance a rather large man sitting on an even larger horse
7	blocking the road. Everyone stopped as Galen motioned for Captain Murk to
8	come up to the front of the column, so they could talk.
9	"Murk, you see what I see up ahead of us?"
10	"Ya, I do your Majesty. Looks like a real big man sitting on a real big
11	horse. What do you think he wants?"
12	"Murk, that's what I want you to find out, go up there and ask the man."
13	Murk looked at Galen and then the stranger, then back at Galen. He was
14	lost for words as his mouth seemed to be stuck open as he thought of what to say.
15	Then he said only one word "Me?"
16	"Yes, Murk you go find out what he wants. You get to be my ambassador
17	for today. Go introduce yourself, be friendly. You never know, He might not be in
18	a killing mood today. As my ambassador you need to find these things out."
19	Murk was reluctant but he swallowed hard and started riding slowly
20	towards the stranger. As he got closer, he could tell the stranger was not from
21	these parts. His hair was yellow and long past his broad shoulders. He wore a very
22	strange looking head piece like a helmet but decorated. There were animal skins
23	that covered his large frame and Murk could see two swords, one on the horse and
24	the other on his belt.
25	"Hello stranger," shouted Murk. The stranger just sat there and said
26	nothing.
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"I take it you're not from around here. Are you?"

The stranger reached for his sword as he asked Murk, "Are you evil? I hate evil and I will kill it wherever I find it." Murk's eyes opened wide as he saw the size of this stranger's sword.

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"Wait a minute friend, I can see how much you hate evil, and so do we. We really, really hate evil." Murk turned and waved to Galen and the others to come up and join them. They came up to where the stranger and Murk were, then everyone got down off their horses and sat down on the side of the road.

8 Murk told Galen he still didn't know the man's name, so Galen went over 9 to the stranger and offered his hand to him as a good-faith gesture. The two men 10 shook hands and Galen offered him a place to sit down next to him. "So, you are 11 not from this country, are you? Why don't you tell us who you are and where 12 you're from?"

The stranger took a moment staring into the ground then began to speak. "I am Bane Silverman Wallace. I come from the Northern territory seeking family. One day my father told me that two generations ago his brother, the one called Alexius, left the old country to follow his God to a new place to the south. I believe that place is here. My hope is that here I will find family and they will help me kill the evil that is here.

Galen knew this story because it had been told to him by his Father King 19 20 Derek. Suddenly Galen realized Bane was a distant cousin Family! Galen never had a brother, now he had found a cousin and he was very happy to hear 21 this. Galen looked over at Murk and the rest of the men and noticed they were all 22 looking at him too. There was a moment of quiet among all the men as they began 23 to whisper among themselves. Galen had a hundred thoughts running through his 24 head, but he managed to get refocused for a moment. "Bane what evil are you 25 26 looking for, why do you want to kill these men so badly that you would come this far to do it?" 27

Bane stood up because he liked to move around as he talked. "Three weeks ago, a great evil came upon us with a great army and killed all my family

and burned down our home destroying everything. I was not there at the time, but
when I got back home, I saw a most horrible sight, all my family and friends lay
dead and everything was burned down. I knew who had done this, and so I
tracked them and killed off stragglers, taking my revenge one man at a time. The
group moved south to this place, I do not know what it is called here, but I have
stayed hidden, killing more of them as the opportunity revealed the time to me.

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Galen thought to himself that all this was beginning to sound all too familiar to him.

9 "Bane, my name is Galen. I am the prince and soon King of Ildar. My
10 Father is King Derek, and he is the son of King Alexius my grandfather. It was
11 King Alexius who came from the northern parts that you speak of. I have heard
12 this story also from my father and grandfather of how God led Alexius to come to
13 this land and here he founded the Kingdom of Ildar. I believe you might have
14 found your ancient family for we also bear the family name Wallace."

After hearing this news Bane stood up and grabbed Galen and gave him the biggest hug Galen had ever had. "I have found family this is good; I want to see King Alexius is he here?"

Galen was a little surprised at his request. "I'm sure you have come a long way Bane, but my grandfather is gone, he passed away many years ago, I hate to tell you that."

Bane looked very surprised, but then said "Evil has been here too and even the great Alexius has fallen. I have no choice now." Everyone was waiting to hear what Banes next words were going to be and what he was going to do as he pulled a hugh sword out of its covering. "I swear my sword and my service and my life to the King of my ancient homeland, to the Grandson of King Alexius." Then he plunged his sword into the ground in front of Galen and bent his knee saying, "My sword and my life are yours my new King."

Everyone's eyes were open wide as they had never seen such a thing done before, but they liked it. The men began to feel a little guilty that here this

stranger has shown more respect to Galen than they ever had. So then as if they
were acting on que, they all stood up and pulled out their swords and one by one
repeated the act that Bane had just finished. They plunged their swords into the
ground in front of Galen and bent their knees also. They even repeated the same
words as Bane.

Galen was surprised that all his men that he had known most all their
lives had honored him in this way, but at the same time felt a little embarrassed so
he quickly asked everyone to stand up. "Bane Silverman Wallace, I accept you
pledge of loyalty, and to say the least I am very happy to actually have a new
brother, indeed so far from home. I have a solution for you. If you are willing you
can help us. You said you want to fight evil, and that's why we are here. We too
are here to fight the evil."

THE RETURN OF MYRA

After everyone had been seated once again Galen addressed the men and their newest member Bane Silverman. "Men, we must not ever forget why we have come this far, it is to capture the traitor the Bishop Donay, and for his crime take him back to my father." Just then something flew past Galen's face, around all the men seated, then straight back to Galen and made a sudden stop right in front of Galen.

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"I bet you missed me, didn't you?"

"M I R A" shouted Galen. "We are trying to have a meeting here."

Bane got his first look at Myra the tiny fairy from Ellendale and jumped to
his feet pulling out his sword and raising it over his head, "I will save you my
King from this devilish menace who dares to attack you."

26 Quickly Galen shouted, "Stop Bane, put your sword away. This is a friend 27 from far away. She is here because I asked for her help." Bane looked confused as 28 to how this tiny devil could be a friend of a Wallace.

1	Then Myra shot over to Bane and got up in his face with her little knife
2	drawn and as she stuck it right on his nose she shouted, "I am not a devil, I am
3	Myra of Ellendale home of the Pixies and Fairies and all that is beautiful. So,
4	don't forget that or you will feel the business end of my knife."
5	"M I R A," shouted Galen again. "Please just go over there with the other
6	men so I can get through this."
7	Once again Galen spoke to the men, their new friend Bane, and now to
8	Myra also. "We came here to get the Bishop Donay and that's exactly what we're
9	going to do. Now we need to find out where he is, so maybe what we ought to do
10	is''
11	Suddenly a tiny little hand shot up, "I know, I know pick me, I know."
12	"Not this again," said Galen. "What is it Myra, do you know where the
13	bishop is?"
14	"No, I don't know that, how can I know that I just got here."
15	"Then why are you interrupting me saying you know, you know?"
16	"Well, I thought I could go look and find him for you. I just want to help."
17	"Okay then fine, why don't you go look around and get back to me when
18	you have found him."
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20	SEARCH FOR THE BISHOP
21	Myra was very happy to get to help so she took off in search of the
22	Bishop. Then Galen spoke to the men again, "Now that Myra is off looking for
23	the Bishop, wherever that might be, I want one other man to follow me and check
24	out some of these caves. The rest of you break up into small groups and close in
25	around the village. Try to capture one of the town's people and make him tell
26	where the Bishop is. From this moment on, trust no one, only yourselves. If you
27	do find him, do nothing, come back here and we will all move in as a group. I will
28	take my new found brother Bane with me since he wants to kill evil he will have
29	his chance today. That sword he has is big enough to kill fifty evil men in a single

stroke. Everyone knows what to do, Murk is in charge of your mission so follow his lead men. Bane you can leave your horse here with ours and we will go the rest of the way on foot. There are some caves close by and we need to find out what's in them."

So, Galen and Bane made their way back off the trail and headed towards the caves close to the village of Darkfort. Meanwhile Murk divided his men into three small groups and started for the village. It was getting dark and the village was lit up by camp fires.

Galen and Bane hid in the tall grass and underbrush of the forest while they watched the cluster of cave openings. Several Mindosian guards were in the area keeping watch over the entrances to the caves. Galen turned to Bane in a soft whisper, "What could they be guarding in the caves? Maybe I should say ... who are they guarding in the caves. I think we need to find out, don't you?"

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"Yes, it is almost dark now, this will be easy," said Bane.

Galen waited for the right moment when there was only one guard 15 standing outside the cave, and as he had his back turned looking to one direction 16 Galen and Bane came from behind him. He silently fell to the ground. Bane ran 17 past Galen and ran into the cave with his sword in hand. As Galen dragged the 18 body of the dead soldier into the bushes he could hear the class of swords and the 19 20 sound of several men dropping to the ground in the cave, thinking his brother needed help but only found three dead Mindosian soldiers on the ground. Bane 21 was looking at Galen as he put this sword away, "I hate evil men and I kill them 22 all." 23

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THE EVIL PLAN UNFOLDS

The evil General Anu came to General Markos of the Mindosian troops, he asked if all was ready and if his men were placed as he was ordered. "Yes, lord Anu my men are in overwhelming numbers and all placed in the village waiting for the word to be given." Suddenly, General Markos felt a sharp pain in his back, he slowly bent over and fell to the ground dead.

"I will be taking over control of the troops if you don't mind," Said the evil lord Anu. Men came running into the room to see what had happened, only to see Anu standing over the now dead body of their General Markos. Because they were afraid of what would happen to them they just stood there looking at Anu.

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"Is there a problem gentleman?"

The men stood there, stricken with fear, they shook they heads, "No!" Anu then said, "Good then, I hate it when there are problems, now get this mess out of my sight and come back."

"Yes, my lord, right away," they shouted. They dragged off the dead body of General Markos then came running back. "We have done what you asked my lord, what can we do now."

"I want you to go tell the troops that are in hiding to spring the trap now,
tell them I want prisoners ... all of them prisoners." The men ran off and the evil
lord Anu, now the only general of the Mindosian army, stood and laughed out
loud at how easy it had been. Soon he would even have the future King of Ildar in
his prison. No one would be able to stop him then.

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MYRA DISCOVERS THE EVIL PLOT

Myra the little fairy of Ellendale left the meeting with Galen and his men and flew all over the area looking for signs of where Bishop Donay could be hiding. The sun had gone down, and she saw that the men had already begun sneaking up on the village in the tall grass and woods of the outlaying forest. She decided to go looking in the houses and huts of the village so down she went and as fast as a flash of light she was inside one of the larger huts in time to see a secret meeting. Just then a runner came into the hut shouting at the men of the army, "Lord Anu has commanded for the trap to be launched now, and I would not want to disappoint him if I were any of you."

Myra's eye opened very wide in amazement at what she just heard. Suddenly the men from all the huts came running out with their swords drawn headed out into the tall grass and the brush of the forest straight towards Murk and the other men. "It's a trap," Myra thought. "I must warn them, but it's too late. There are too many evil men they will kill all of them. I have to help."

PRISIONERS TAKEN

Myra drew out her little blade and took off after the Mindosian army men. 11 She could move very fast and she quickly began poking and stabbing as many of 12 them as she could. Even though it did hurt them, the men found Murk and his 13 eleven other men. A battle began as Murk slaved several Mindosian solders 14 before he was captured. All his men fought hard and many solders fell by the 15 blows of the Ildarian swords. Unfortunately, one by one each man of Ildar was 16 captured and bound. Myra was busy sticking the soldiers and never paid attention 17 to what was about to happen from behind. Suddenly a bag from one of the 18 soldiers came out of nowhere and covered Myra as she too was now captured by 19 the forces of the evil lord Anu. 20

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MEANWHILE BACK IN THE PRISON CAVE

With only a few torches for light Galen heard the voice of someone calling
out to him, "Prince Galen, come closer dear prince come closer. I see you still
wear the golden armor of my people. This is the price I received for helping you.
They will kill me in the morning if you do not help me."

Galen grabbed one of the torches and help it up to the prison cell door to see who it was that called to him. To his surprise it was the one called Diamond, the fallen princess of Ellendale. Galen looked at her closely, "No one who helps

1	me shall die today or tomorrow. I will take you back to Ellendale and they can do
2	with you what they want there. For now, you have to stay here until we are ready,
3	then I will be back for you. I can't take a chance on you running away or this
4	being some kind of trick."
5	Diamond responded in a soft and weak voice, "I helped you once, and I
6	will again. You have to believe me, this is not a trick. I know why you are here, I
7	also know where he is, this man you seek. I spoke the truth when I told you how
8	to find your true love Tira, trust me now and you shall again find what you seek."
9	Bane was out by the front entrance to the prison cells and called back to
10	Galen, "I hear the sound of men coming we need to hide fast."
11	Galen looked at her again, "I will be back and you better not be lying to
12	me." Galen and Bane both under the cover of darkness managed to run back out
13	into the forest, but not so far away that they couldn't see what was happening.
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15	THE PRISIONERS & A VISIT FROM ANU
16	The soldiers tied the hands of all Galen's men and marched them all to the
17	caves where they were thrown into the prison cells. Their weapons and armor
18	were taken and thrown into a corner of the cave. The bag with Myra in it hung
19	from a nail in a special cell made just for a fairy. No matter how hard Myra tried
20	she could not tear the bag with her knife, and even if she could, she would still
21	find herself in a prison made just for her. But it didn't stop her from screaming at
22	the top of her lungs.
23	There were several Mindosian guards when a shadowy figure, the evil lord
24	Anu, turned the corner and entered into the cave which was now full of prisoners.
25	He stood for a few minutes looking at the group of prisoners.
26	"Where is the one called Galen, the future King of Ildar? Gentlemen, you
27	would not have gotten here if you did not have help. I want to know who helped
28	you. You have always had help and you always seem to ruin my plans, so WHO
29	IS HELPING YOU? No one said a word. Then Anu motioned for one of the

guards to bring him the small bag which imprisoned the fairy, Myra. "Bring me 1 2 the cage," he said. Then Anu reached inside the bag and grabbed Myra and put 3 her in the cage so he could see. "You are an evil demon," shouted Myra. 4 "What is your name little one before I squish you right here for the insect 5 that you are?" 6 7 "My name is Myra and I'm not an insect, I am a Fairy and I'm going to tell the Fairy Council what you have done, and you will be very sorry." 8 Anu just smiled watching Myra in the cage. "So, you are of the land of the 9 Ellen's, and you think they can save you. I think I will make you my pet, like 10 11 Diamond you will do my bidding as I please." "I will never do anything you say, I hate you," yelled Myra. 12 "I believe you will have a change of heart after I destroy Ellendale. They 13 have interfered in my business too much, and for too long. I will go there; I will 14 destroy them all and you're precious Fairy Council will bow to me." Myra was 15 shocked and stepped backwards holding on to the cage for support. "I want to 16 know who is helping you, or tomorrow you all will join Diamond in death." With 17 that being said, a guard took the cage that was holding Myra and hung it back up 18 in the prison cell. The guard and Anu left the prison cave. 19 20 Myra was beside herself and determined to do something to stop the evil demon and to help save her home. After a few hours had passed, the guards had 21 fallen asleep, but not Myra. Finally, alone she felt confident to try and call home 22 again as she did before. She still had her very small fairy size mirror. 23 24 A CALL HOME 25 26 Myra slipped her little mirror out of her bag that was always worn around her waist and set it on the floor of the cage. She moved the bag she was captured 27 in around to cover the mirror, and then she was ready. Myra looked into the 28 mirror, and it showed a picture of her home Ellendale, and Myra spoke to the 29

mirror, "I have to talk to the Princess Emmy." The image in the mirror began to
move over the land, and the water, and then straight up into the clouds where it
finally came to a stop in the Cathedral of the Saints high on top of Mount Gillia in
the Eastern Heights of Ellendale.

In a matter of only seconds, the Princess Emmy appeared on the little mirror. "Why Myra, your call had the since of urgency to it, I could feel it very strongly. What is wrong my child?"

8 "Princess there is plenty wrong here and now Ellendale has been9 threatened also."

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"Myra, calm down and tell me what is happening."

11 Myra was so upset she didn't know where to start. "Princess, Galen and 12 his men were about to attack the village of Darkfort in the land of Cliffshire. But 13 the evil lord Anu was here and had a trap and captured all Galen's men and me. 14 We are in a cave made into a jail and we need help to get out. Also, the Princess 15 Diamond is here in the jail too. Can you please help us? That evil Anu said he was 16 going to make me his pet and destroy all of Ellendale. You need to sound the 17 alarm and tell the Fairy Council."

"One moment Myra," said the Princess. Princess Emmy stepped away for 18 a moment, but Myra could see that she stepped over to the others to tell them of 19 20 the news. By the looks of concern on their faces Myra could tell they didn't take the news well. They all left Mount Gillia except the Princess Emmy who came 21 back to the screen. "Yes, certainly Myra, I will help you and the others. Take a 22 step to the side of the mirror for a minute please." Myra was so happy now that 23 they were getting out of the prison. Then the Princess's hand came through the 24 mirror and it turned into a vapor of blue smoke and it went straight to the locks on 25 26 all the jail cells and suddenly they all made the sound of unlocking themselves. The vapor soon vanished, and the Princess Emmy smiled for now her friends and 27 Galen's men could get out of the jail. "One thing I ask of you Myra, that you give 28

a message to our beloved sister Diamond, tell her that all has been forgiven and that it is time to come home where she is loved. We all miss her so much."

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"Okay Princess, I will tell her ... Goodbye." With that the mirror went blank and Myra put it back in her little bag. Myra quickly went and pushed the door open of her cage then flew over and pulled the doors open to the other jail cells. She shouted to everyone to hurry and wake up so they could get away. Several of the men jumped to their feet to leave, but they were met by the three Mindosian guards and a struggle broke out between them. Just as one of the jail guards were about to call for help, the tip of Galen's sword ran him through, and Bane finished off the other guards.

Galen gestured for everyone to be quiet and gather their armor and weapons quickly. Diamond said nothing, as she looked at Galen, she wondered if he meant for her to come also. Galen reached out to Diamond and with a gentile hand and helped her out of the cell. "I hear they were planning to kill you in the morning, but not if you come with us, so hurry. Everyone hurry now," said Galen.

As soon as everyone had their armor back on and weapons ready they 17 began to sneak out of the cave as quietly as they could. They all went back to 18 where they had left the horses. Everything was as they had left it. Galen looked 19 20 around at everyone, "Men of Ildar, we have only been in this village six hours. In that time we have found Bane a long lost relative, our fairy fiend Myra, and an old 21 22 friend the ex-princess of Ellendale in the jail. All of you managed to get yourself captured and if it hadn't been for Myra, a little fairy, all of you big strong men 23 might still be in that jail. And if all that isn't enough, we still haven't found the 24 Bishop, which is the reason we came here in the first place. This will be 25 embarrassing to tell father when we get home." 26

Bane thought it would be a good time to tell everyone, "I still want to kill
evil, they all need to die."

1	Galen looked over to Bane, "I think you will still get that chance and very
2	soon."
3	"Galen, I need to tell you something that I think will help," said Diamond
4	"What do you have to tell us Diamond?"
5	"Well, I know where this Bishop Donay is." Now that caught Galen's
6	attention.
7	"Galen, they are keeping the bishop in one of the large huts for now until
8	they decide what to do with him. They captured him after he sold the book that
9	the Dragon wanted. Anu agreed not to kill him if he would tell them who he sold
10	the book to. He sold it to the General of the Army of the Cloven Crest in the
11	Black Forest Mountains for thirty pieces of silver."
12	Galen looked over at Diamond, "That book is back home now, I fixed that
13	problem, and I will fix this problem. We are not leaving without that Bishop."
14	Galen looked around for Myra, a moment later he said, "Myra I have a job for you
15	it is very important and require all your fairy skills."
16	In a blink of time Myra was right there in front of Galen, "I want to help,
17	you can count on me."
18	"Good," said Galen. "Now listen to me. You go as fast as you can and find
19	which hut the bishop is in and come back and tell me. Got it?"
20	"I got it and I'm already on my way." With that Myra was gone in a flash.
21	"Diamond, you need to stay here and watch this camp area and the horses, we will
22	be back. Bane, I want you and Murk with me and the rest of you stay in small
23	groups and do not let them capture you. I can't believe I'm going to say this, but
24	kill them all and let's go home. Now, it's late and so I don't expect for many of
25	them to be awake, only a few guards. After Myra tells us where the Bishop is,
26	then Bane and I will go in and get him and bring him out. If they see us, they will
27	come after us and that's when you will go to work. We must succeed or die here
28	tonight."
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HOME AT LAST

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CAPTURE BISHOP DONAY

Galen and his men positioned themselves only about one hundred yards from the huts they thought Myra was looking into. Everyone was quiet but alert. Suddenly like a little lightning bolt Myra appeared, "I know, I know where he is, and he is close by. The closest hut to you, go to the right and he is there. Everyone is asleep so if you're quiet you can get him fast and get out before anyone knows it."

Galen looked around at his men and signaled that he was moving in. 8 Galen, Murk and Bane all snuck around the back of the hut to the right, and then 9 around to the front entrance and crept inside. Sure enough everyone was sleeping, 10 11 Galen motioned to Murk to get the bishop while Bane pulled out his sword in case anyone woke up and decided to stop them. Murk stuck his knife to the bishop's 12 throat and his hand over his mouth. Murk whispered, "Wake up you traitor, you 13 have an appointment." The bishop woke up to see Murk's face only inches form 14 his own, "Okay, okay don't kill me, I'm coming," whispered the bishop. Murk 15 16 lifted him up onto his feet and the three started out the door.

As fate would have it Murk tripped over the leg of one of the sleeping guards and the guard woke up. "Who are you and what are you doing with the prisoner?"

Just then Bane's sword was thrusted through the guard. He let out a scream which woke up the other two guards. Bane swung around with the ease of the best swordsman in all the land and killed the other two guards with just one strike of his mighty sword. "I kill evil men," that's all Bane seemed to ever say.

"Let's get out of here fast, I think I hear more men outside," said Galen.
Out the entrance they went as fast as they could, but by now the few men that
were acting as guards saw what was happening and started to shout and drew their
swords. They started running towards Galen and the others.

28 "Get out of here fast," should Bane as he took a stance with his sword
29 ready to conquer all the guards running towards them. "Go to the others, I will be

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there shortly and join you, now go." Galen and Murk ran off into the night dragging the bishop with them. Soon they were not to be seen in the dark forest.

"I HATE EVIL," is all Galen heard from Bane as he watched that very large sword swinging and stabbing. The body count began to stack up at Bane's feet. Quickly it all came to a stop and Bane ran back to find Galen. Galen was stunned, and he could only stare at Bane, "You are a wild man, are you sure you are a Wallace?"

"I am a Wallace for sure, but I still can see the picture of my family these murderers slaughtered. My anger may never be quenched until they are all dead."

Galen looked over at Murk with a bit of a surprised look on his face, then it turned to a grin. "I'm getting to like Bane the more I see him work."

About that time all the guards came running out of the dark waving swords and yelling as loud as they could. Myra drew out her little sword and like a little lightning bolt she shot over to the charging men and started stabbing the enemy in the nose and then in the seat of their pants and men were jumping all over, now trying to get away from the tiny demon who is sticking them so much.

Then Bane, Galen, and Murk all stood up swords ready. Seeing them stand gave courage to the rest of the men to stand up, ready to engage the enemy that was charging at them. After sticking the men Myra flew over to guard the bishop with her little sword straight in the face of the bishop, "Go ahead and try to escape, she told the bishop. I want to use my new sword really bad." The bishop didn't move after that.

The battle was short lived because no other guards came running after them. Seeing that his guards were being slaughtered and not one Ildarian man had even been touched. The new General Dodd shouted for the men to stop the fighting and withdraw back into the area of the circled huts.

General Dodd picked one of the men up and yelled that he wanted to know what happened here. How did the prisoners escape the prison and how did they manage to take the Bishop from the hut while guarded by three guards? The man's legs and feet were shaking as he struggled to speak, "I don't ... don't
know," was all the words the guard could get out. Next thing there was a crack
and he was tossed aside dead.

"Where are the prison guards I left in charge of those few very valuable prisoners? Where are they? Bring them here." Soon they too were dead. "I know they had to have help," said Anu, "Who was helping them?"

"Maybe it was that Fairy that was flying all over the place here, said one of the guards.

9 The Fairy was supposed to be locked up; "I hate fairies," Anu screamed 10 out. "I would kill the guard, but I already did. Let this be a lesson for all of you. 11 Now I will move up my plans to destroy Ellendale. I'm tired of them interfering 12 with my plans." Then Anu looked up into the air and shook his fist, "I will see 13 Ellendale destroyed in two days."

What everyone didn't know was that the tiny Fairy Myra was listening in to the conversation and heard everything the evil lord Anu said. She took off to warn everyone.

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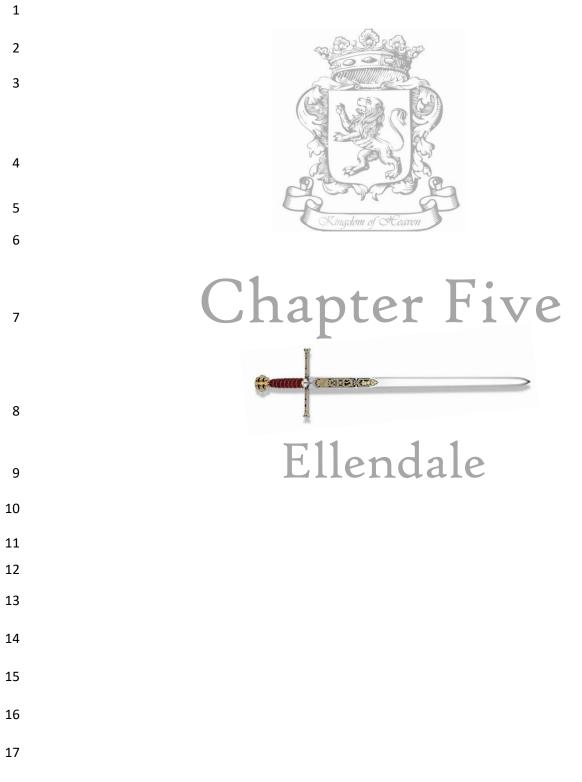
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THE BAD NEWS



ira headed straight to Galen with the news that lord Anu and General Dodd planned to invade Ellendale in two days. Galen thought of all his options and the number of men he had with him, and then called on Murk. "Captain Murk, pick three of your most trusted men to be an escort to take the Bishop back home and deliver him to my Father and no one else. After

you give the men these instructions then send them on their way, but I need them back as soon as possible, time is of the essence so have them leave immediately."

The news of a coming invasion of Ellendale deeply disturbed Galen. His 10 thoughts were on all the good things the Ellen's have done for all of Ildar. "Murk, 11 I want you, and Myra, and Bane to come and walk with me for a bit, while I think 12 out loud." The four of them went out into the night forest away from the others. "I 13 believe time is of the essence and we need to do something now. We can't wait 14 15 for Anu and his hordes to begin attacking Ellendale before we act. The Bishop is on his way back to my Father and that mission is accomplished. But a bigger 16 problem now faces us, and we can't just go home. 17

18 If we being good men do nothing, then evil will consume all the land and eventually it will reach the Kingdom of Ildar. I want to start our journey for 19 Ellendale first thing in the morning. Myra since it is your home, what you think is 20 important especially now. What would you suggest we do?" 21

Myra was very anxious. "I want to go back home they need me, they need 22 all of us. Tonight, I will contact Princess Emmy and Ginna the head of the Fairy 23 Counsel they must be told of this. It is my duty as a fairy first class to stay with 24 you, but my heart tells me we must go to Ellendale." 25

Galen looked at Myra with a smile, "I didn't know you got a promotion to 26 27 fairy first class ... congratulations."

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"I'm so excited, thank you. Ginna the leader of the fairies is very
important you know. She called me and told me what a good job I was doing and
the reports she was hearing kept her informed of our progress, so she promoted
me to Fairy First Class."

5 Murk and Bane looked at each other. Murk couldn't hold back his muted 6 laugh any more. Myra saw the laugh come out of Murk and her temper got the 7 best of her. She pulled out her knife and flew right up into Murk's face. Suddenly 8 Murk's two big eyes were focused on the tip of his nose. "When they promoted 9 me, they gave me a new knife it is longer and sharper. I see you still wear the 10 scars of my old knife on the tip of this mountain you call a nose. Do you want 11 some new scars from my new blade ... well do ya?"

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Murk backed up a step or two, "Ah! I think I'll pass on being stuck again, I'm really glad to hear you got promoted."

Myra now beamed with new confidence as she looked over at Bane and then she got in his face also, her blade right up close where he could see it. "Do you have any problems?" Bane just shook his head not choosing to say nothing.

Galen was smiling at it all and especially the new Myra, full of
confidence. "Okay Myra time to put your knife away, you have no enemies here,
we all love you. Don't we guys?" Quickly Murk and Bane shook their heads yes.

Myra now beaming with authoritative confidence spoke, "Galen, I'm tired 20 21 of evil pushing us around and taking what it wants, I say we stop letting evil do 22 this. We need to tell them to leave us alone, they need a good kick in the pants, and we are just the right ones to do it. Just wait, they have never messed with 23 24 fairy power before. I will call all the mightiest of the fairies, like Benny, Rufus, 25 and Willy who has a real mean wife, and it's not good to make her mad. I hear she 26 is best friends with Ginna. We will fight them and stop all this evil and it needs TO STOP NOW." 27

1	"Myra, calm down, that's what we're going to do," said Galen.
2	Then Murk spoke up, "I have known you a long time and I'd say if that's
3	what's in your heart to do then that is the right thing to do."
4	About that time Bane spoke his opinion loud and clear, "I just want to kill
5	evil."
6	Galen looked at his new-found cousin, "Bane, I promise this will be the
7	greatest chance you will ever have to kill all the evil you want. Perhaps they are
8	the very ones who killed your family?" Bane's face turned serious as he reached
9	for his sword. "Just don't start swinging that big sword right now," said Galen.
10	
11	ON TO ELLENDALE
12	The morning came quickly and as everyone was getting themselves ready
13	to leave Galen called for Myra. "Okay Myra it's about that time we will be
	leaving shortly. I'm counting on you to show us the way."
14	leaving shortry. I in counting on you to show us the way.
14 15	Myra responded, "Galen, it's not the same for humans as it is for Fairies.
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15 16 17	Myra responded, "Galen, it's not the same for humans as it is for Fairies. You can't just go to Ellendale. I can because I am of Ellendale, I just think of home and I am there. You have to think of Ellendale also and imagine it and then
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would stop the path would also stop. The group followed the road all day until Galen felt it was time to finally make camp for the night.

1

- Murk and a few other men went out into the forest and quickly came back with a few rabbits and a deer they could cook for supper. Murk held up three of the rabbits and proclaimed, "Now this I can do, why I will have these little darlings and that big one over there ready for the eating in no time." Indeed, Murk was true to his word, and everyone had plenty to eat that night.
- 8 A little later that evening as everyone sat around the fire and talking of the past events their fire suddenly grew several times larger than it was. The fire 9 10 began to crackle, and pop and sparks were sent out striking everyone. All eyes were on the fire now, a pillar of smoke came out of the fire as more sparks and 11 12 fire began flying all around and the next thing, they knew the dragon appeared before all of them. Bane had never seen such a thing and jumped back and pulled 13 14 his sword out to fight the dragon. The dragon just laughed at this attempt to fight him. Then the dragon looked straight into the face of Galen, "So you have come 15 against me again, you think you have won anything? You have only won what I 16 have let you win. I will give you credit that you are determined, but you are only a 17 18 toy I play with." Then Galen and Murk stood up and pulled out their swords. The 19 dragon let out a screeching laugh at their gestures.
- Galen shouted at the dragon, "Remember who gave you that scar dragon,
 and I see lots of room for my blade to make more." The dragon only let out a
 small snicker of a laugh.
- "Where are you headed young king? If to Ellendale, then your travel will
 be in vain. You and your friends will die along with all of Ellendale. You and it
 will be no more, a forgotten almost king. All of Ildar I will rule, it is written in
 your own Book of Beginnings. I have seen it."

1 Then the dragon disappeared, and the fire calmed down. Galen was very 2 upset by what the dragon had said. Everyone was looking at Galen, as he looked 3 around at all of them, he said, "I fear there is a mighty war coming and this is why we need to go to Ellendale. I will not leave our friends to stand alone against so 4 great an enemy." 5

6 Bane held his sword up in the air and shouted, "I am with you Galen, I give you my sword and if need be my life in a battle over evil." Then Murk and 7 the other soldiers did the same all of them pledging their loyalty in this epic battle 8 that was coming, the Battle for Ellendale. 9

10 Little Myra flew over to Galen, "I would normally be scared of dragons, but this time I wasn't because you were here. I believe in you Galen and I will 11 12 certainly tell the Princess and all the Fairy Council of how you fight for us. I believe everything will be okay if you stand with us. On behalf of all Ellendale, I 13 14 want to say thank you."

Galen was all choked up over Myra's words, "Thank you Myra for saying 15 16 that it means a lot to me." Then Galen looked around at the others, I suggest we all get some sleep, we start early tomorrow we must get to Ellendale." 17

18

24

* * * * * 19 20 21 The morning came fast, and everyone was up and ready to go. "Myra, we need to make good time today, is there any way to speed this up?" 22 "You want the road to go faster? Or you want the road to just take you 23 there?"

"Now you're talking double talk Myra, I want to be there now, so how can 25 you make this happen? 26

- "Well last night you didn't say that. Let me go have a talk with the road."
 "You're going to go talk to a dirt road."
- "Yes, and I'm surprised to hear you say that. Everything associated with 3 4 Ellendale is alive and if you just talk to things, they will help you. You have to negotiate with them, plus it helps if you have fairy dust" So Myra took off to talk 5 to the road on behalf of Galen. Galen watched Myra fly off and stop over the top 6 7 of the path. Myra seemed to be talking to someone, but for the most part it looked 8 like a one-way conversation. Then Galen watched as Myra reached into her bag and sprinkled some of her fairy dust on the road then she flew back to Galen. "It's 9 all set Galen you will be there shortly." 10
- 11 Galen just sat on his horse and looked at Myra. "You mean you made a 12 deal with a dirt road that will get us there today?"
- "Yes, I said, he was a hard negotiator, so for the sake of time I gave in. I
 had to give up some fairy dust, he wanted a new surface. You can thank me later
 if you want. So, can we go now ... oh yes, and I heard that Princess Emmy will
 meet us on the other side of the bridge that no one can cross."
- Again, Galen just looked at her, "Do you know how confusing you are?" 17 18 Galen looked around and everyone was ready. "Captain Murk, have two of your men bring up the rear, and no one is allowed to slow us down, make them keep up 19 ... Now let's ride." Galen was feeling the anxiety of the moment and the need to 20 get to Ellendale as fast as possible. They got on the road that Myra had talked to 21 22 and started to run the horses. As they did Galen noticed that the countryside on both sides of the road started moving much faster. They hadn't been gone five 23 24 minutes, yet it was as though they had gone many miles. Galen kept up the pace and the landscape was changing even faster on both sides of the road. It was as if 25 26 the road was moving them much faster than they were actually going.

1 They had not even been thirty minutes on the road and suddenly the road 2 came to a stop and they were looking at a bridge that only went out over the lake 3 half way, then seemingly came to a stop. It was the bridge that no one could cross. 4 Which meant they were at the very doors of Ellendale. Galen was amazed at the 5 speed to which they had gotten there, he called for Myra. "Myra, whatever it cost 6 you to get the road to move faster it was well worth it, thank you. Murk, we have 7 been at this bridge before, haven't we? What did we use as a key?"

8 "Your Majesty, I remember this well, the key was your blue medallion. It
9 is close to your heart, and it opened the unseen gates."

Galen got down off his horse and walked out to what appeared to be the end of the bridge halfway across the lake. Galen turned back around and shouted for everyone to come out as far as he was and bring Diamond to him. Diamond was very uneasy even nervous, and everyone saw it. Whatever was the issue, it was clear that Diamond did not want to cross the bridge into Ellendale, but Galen with the edge of his sword, gave her no choice.

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SISTERS UNITED AGAIN

Galen reached out and found the invisible wall. When he touched it, it revealed the round key pad. Galen put his medallion in the liquid lock and it was accepted. A few seconds later a loud noise was heard, and the rock wall doors slowly opened inward into Ellendale and a brilliant light shot out as the doors opened.

With the opening of the doors, Galen was allowed to see the rest of the bridge that led them into Ellendale. At the place where the bridge met the ground there stood two women. Both of them had long blonde hair and dressed in the same full-length powder blue and silver dresses, and sparkling silver tiaras were upon their heads. They had around their necks golden medallions which were symbols of their positions in the Kingdom of Ellendale. These were two of the
three sister Princesses of Ellendale. Suddenly Diamond could feel Galen's blade
in her back and she knew what that meant. She could not hide any more from her
sisters, so she slowly walked across the bridge and up to her older sister Emmy.

Princess Emmy was the first to speak, "Sister I am so pleased to see you
again, I welcome you home. Your time outside our walls has certainly taken a tow
on you I see." Diamonds hair had turned black, and it appeared she had aged
many years beyond her actual age. Diamond just stood there saying nothing then
put her hands over her face and broke down crying.

Princess Stephanie's heart went out to her sister, she said to Diamond, "You will always be my sister, and nothing can change that. It has been so long, but I promise you there is no condemnation here. No one blames you for anything. Here you will find only love and acceptance. We rejoice to see you again."

Then Emmy and Stephanie took a few steps towards Diamond and the 15 three of them embraced each other. There were words exchanged only in whispers 16 as more tears of rejoicing and of understanding flowed out. For everything 17 Diamond had done and had been through and the reasons for them were suddenly 18 19 not that important now. Then Stephanie reached into a small pocket on her dress and pulled out a medallion that matched the ones Emmy and her were wearing. "I 20 offer you this, it is yours if you are willing to come back home where you belong 21 and be our sister again." Diamond's eyes widened at the sight of this golden 22 medallion of Ellendale. Accepting this would mean she could never leave 23 24 Ellendale without renouncing their father and everything Ellen. To renounce Ellendale meant you become all of what the outside world is. This was Diamonds 25 26 great wrong, she chose the world and not Ellendale. Now she stood before her two sisters, Princess Emmy and Stephanie. She began to cry again saying, "I'm so 27 sorry, I don't deserve our fathers forgiveness, or your forgiveness. I beg you, 28

please, please forgive me. I do want to come home, but was afraid of what I
 would find, or if I would even be accepted anymore."

Princess Emmy said to her, "Sister our father is kind and full of love, he 3 always is ready to forgive and welcome you home. Diamond, it is not about what 4 you deserve, but what you believe." Diamond was humbled by the attitude of 5 forgiveness she found from her sisters. Stephanie took the medallion in both 6 hands then reached out and placed it around Diamonds neck. Suddenly the 7 medallion began to glow so brightly that no one could see the three women. No 8 9 one could finish crossing the bridge as long as this extremely bright light engulfed the three women. As Galen and the others sat on the bridge they had a front row 10 seat to all that was going on and the miracle of Ellendale. The real miracle was 11 one of forgiveness and acceptance, and a home for those who would believe. 12 After a few minutes the light subsided, and all three Princesses now stood facing 13 Galen. Diamond had been restored, her hair and her dress even her continence 14 was once again of an Ellen, a royal member of Ellendale. She now stood in the 15 place given to her from the beginning of Ellendale by their Father. 16

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A TALK WITH EMMY

After the light vanished away Myra finished crossing the bridge and flew
over to the three Princesses. "I am so happy and so proud to be an Ellen. I do love
my home, but what about the evil that is coming what are we going to do?"

"Myra, we are going to stay calm little one," said Emmy. Then Emmy
turned to her sister Stephanie and asked her to take Diamond up to Mount Gillia
so she could rest. Then suddenly the two of them vanished, gone in the twinkling
of an eye.

Galen felt it was time he finished crossing the bridge, so he and his men entered into Ellendale, behind them the great rock doors closed and the bridge was one again hidden. "Princess Emmy I am glad to see you as always. I'm glad
 that Diamond is back home now where she belongs, but I wish it was under better
 circumstances."

"Galen, please come with me and we can talk. I am sorry I just found out 4 about the dark Lord's intensions only last night. Myra told me. Since then, our 5 6 council met and talked about the threat we now face. However, we are not an 7 aggressive people we have little in the way of defenses, except the great barrier wall. If that is breached, then we have no defenses that could overcome an 8 9 invading army of evil. Then I heard from Myra that you were on your way here and my heart suddenly was given a new hope. We are in your debt Galen for 10 coming, also I managed to have a quick talk with your father, and he has 11 12 promised us help in our hour of need.

"Princess, I have come with just a few men to help defend Ellendale against the dragon and his army of Mindosian soldiers. The dragon has sworn to avenge himself on you. I sent the bishop home in irons with three of my men with instructions to tell my father of what we have learned. He will do something, I'm sure. So, the few of us are here now, we offer you our swords and our lives if needed to protect your kingdom. If it is acceptable with you my men and I shall camp out here on this field and stand guard starting now."

"I believe that is a good idea, Galen. Before I go, there are a few things to
share with you first. One thing is that I do believe in divine intervention.
Something will be decided here, on these fields of Ellendale. For the first blood
will be shed here. I cannot stand the thought of it, but I have confidence that the
right people will come to our aid.

I will say that it has not escaped my attention that you and your men wear the golden armor of Ellendale that was given to you last time we met. This was a wise thing to do, when dealing with evil, that suit is the only thing that protects you."

3

After hearing that Bane spoke up very clearly and loudly, "Excuse me, but I don't have one of those golden suits, would there be an extra one I could have since I too am here to kill the evil. I need an extra-large please."

Emmy smiled, Bane had made her laugh for a moment, "Yes you can have 4 a suit also, I will have it brought to you today. I thank you for your willingness to 5 6 come and stand with us in our greatest time of need."

7 After that Emmy disappeared and Galen and the men found a place out in 8 the green fields of Ellendale to set up camp. All they could do then was to wait. So, the men spent time sharpening their swords and talking among themselves. 9 Bane was up and walking around looking at the wide-open field, "Galen, I think it 10 11 would be better if we were back further so those Mindosians will have to run all the way to us and be out of energy to fight. They will be easily cut down." 12

13 Galen shouted over at Bane, "What you don't understand is that evil spirits drive these Mindosians to fight and even die. Don't ever turn your back or 14 15 lower your guard they will kill you if given a chance. But I think your right we might want to move camp further back." 16

About that time Myra came flying back to where Galen and his men were. 17 This time Myra had her friends with her. "Galen, I wanted to tell you that when I 18 told the Fairy Council of what you are doing here, they sent out an alert and 19 fairies from all over the kingdom are coming to help. There are over two-thousand 20 of us and we're all packing the hard stuff. We are ready to fight, just tell us what 21 22 you want us to do."

"You're packing? What are you packing?" asked Galen. So, Myra and all 23 24 the other fairies pulled out their daggers, some even had shields, and they lifted them into the air for Galen to see. 25

"Well Myra that is very impressive to say the least. For now, why don't
 you and your friends wait in the forest. Keep watch and when the fighting begins
 you can call your friends into action."

Myra liked that plan and so all the fairies suddenly disappeared into the forest hiding among the trees. Myra looked over at all the other fairies, "You heard him, that was Galen, he said I was in charge, and that I get to lead us into battle when it is time."

8 All the fairy's raised their knives toward Myra saying, "To Myra leader of
9 the mighty fairy army."

10

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A MESSAGE FROM PRINCESS EMMY

12 Later that afternoon the men noticed something coming their way from out of the sky. The closer it came the more golden color it appeared, and then as it 13 was closer they could see it was the golden suit of armor the Princess had 14 promised Bane. It was being delivered by the fairies. "Mr. Bane you have to take 15 16 off those animal skin coverings you have on, and all the swords and knives, all the way down to only an outer shirt." Once Bane had that accomplished the fairies 17 18 went to work making the suit fit him. As the fairies did their work there came another messenger fairy with a message for Galen. 19

"My name is Rudy, and I am the official messenger of Ellendale. The 20 21 Princess is in the holy place of prayer, she is praying for her beloved Ellendale. I was asked to deliver a message to you personally. The dragon has threatened the 22 23 Princess and her sisters again, so she has called your father the King. He has 24 promised help is coming and asked for you to hold the line till he gets here. The 25 Princess has asked if you have this line that the King has asked you to hold? If not, we may be able to find one here for you. ... Oh yes, lastly the Princess says 26 27 that it is her belief the battle will begin tomorrow."

- "Please tell the Princess that I got the message, and I will hold the line as my father has asked."
- 3

4

AROUND THE CAMPFIRE

5 Galen had a smile on his face thinking of his father's comments to, "Hold 6 the line, till he gets here." There are always things that get lost in the translation 7 of a message. That evening the men built a grand campfire and settled in for the 8 night. There was a tension in the air that everyone could feel. Anxiety just before 9 a battle is a normal thing. No one wants to speak of the possibilities, so as the men 10 gathered around the fire, they sang a song or two and found reason to laugh and 11 be silly at each other's expense and get their minds off the inevitable.

Myra looked over and saw the campfire and her friends seemed to be having a fun time, so she invited all her fairy friends to come with her and explore the campfire together. By now all two thousand fairies were in the trees and they like Myra thought it would be fun to get closer to the fire. It only took a second and soon thousands of fairies were all around the campfire, some in the air and some landed on the ground, some on the rocks, and even some had landed on the heads the men.

Bane enjoyed the fairies and laughed because as he said, "They are so
small and entertaining." This was the wrong thing to say especially for Myra. She
flew up to Bane with her knife drawn, and she got right in his face.

"You think we are here to entertain you? Do you think we are fun because
we are smaller than you? Well Mr. Bane, we mean business and let me give you a
small sample of business." Myra then stuck Bane in the nose with the business
end of her knife.

1	"OUCH you little fairy monster, that hurt." Bane jumped up and pulled
2	out his sword, but couldn't find Myra and suddenly hundreds of fairies were
3	flying all around ready to attack Bane.
4	Galen jumped to his feet, "Hold on everyone. Bane put your sword away,
5	the fairies are our friends. They are just playful and mean you no harm."
6	"But she stabbed me in the nose."
7	"Just be thankful it was your nose, there are lots of other places that would
8	hurt worse." All the men broke out laughing and slapped Bane on the back and
9	got him to sit down and enjoy the evening.
10	One of the men shouted out, "We need more music, a song we need
11	another song for tonight."
12	The fairies calmed down and landed once again around the campfire.
13	Myra shouted that they knew lots of songs, fairy songs. All the fairies cheered and
14	lifted their knives into the air and shouted, "Yes we want music we want to
15	dance." There were several large rocks next to the fire and so Myra flew to the top
16	of one and pulled out a little horn from her bag and begun to make music. The
17	fairies laughed and joined hands and danced even more and flew around in circles
18	around the fire. The men watching this laughed and clapped their hands which
19	only led to further the fairies excitement. Suddenly one of them broke out singing
20	her song saying
21	"We are the fairies of Ellendale,
22	We jump for joy, we laugh, we sing,
23	All for the fun and the joy it brings.
24	Ha ha ha, la la la la la la la.
25	Come join us now, laugh and sing
26	Make your heart merry,

1	And see what the future brings.
2	Lift your swords with us to the light,
3	For whoever comes against us will find us full of fight.
4	Ha ha ha, la la la la la la la.
5	
6	Take courage you men of Ildar,
7	For the Fairies are on your side,
8	Though evil comes against you,
9	It finds no place to hide.
10	Be brave, be strong, and be ready to fight
11	Salvation comes on wings of golden light.
12	Ha ha ha, la la la la la la la."
13	
14	The singing and the merriment lasted for several hours until the fairies
15	couldn't dance, jump and sing anymore. Exhausted, the fairies headed back into
16	the forest to find a good branch for the night. Galen and his men retired as well
17	and soon all was still only a small flickering flame was all that was left of the
18	once great fire. The sound of a few men snoring was soon all that could be heard.
19	
20	A VISITOR
21	That night in the wee hours of the morning when it is the darkest part of
22	the night, an even darker shadow came over the fields of Ellendale and stopped
23	over Galen. A presence was felt that was so oppressive and forbearing that it
24	woke Galen from his sleep.

"Who's there?" shouted Galen as he reached for his sword. None of the other men woke up, it seems this visitor was just for Galen.

3 "Why do you come against me, Galen, you kill my servants and take what
4 is not yours. In the morning you shall not succeed, but you and all the others
5 including the fairies shall die on this field."

Suddenly, Galen's eyes beheld a vision of the field after the battle. He saw
all his friends and the princesses and all the fairies lying dead on the fields of
Ellendale. Blood was everywhere as he turned to see the mountains for they too
were on fire and all the places and buildings were burning. No one but him was
alive, and all was lost. He saw the end of the Ellen's and the destruction of
Ellendale.

- 12 The dark shadow spoke to him again, "This is the fate of all who oppose 13 me. Ellendale must end in the morning, but I will make you King over this land if 14 you will only bow your knee to me. Then Galen saw another vision of all the 15 kingdoms outside of Ildar and again the shadow spoke, "All these kingdoms shall 16 you rule over if you would only serve me."
- Galen's anger welled up inside him, that evil would slaughter so many and
 destroy so much, then offer it to him. All that was dear to him would have to die
 so he could have all this power. "Listen to me you evil thing, listen so there is no
 mistake, I WILL NEVER SERVE YOU ... NEVER!!
- 21
- 22

WAR COMES TO ELLENDALE

Galen didn't get much sleep after his encounter with evil. He was the first one up and so it was up to him to get everyone else moving and suited up for the battle. While everyone was beginning to move around Galen thought he would have a few moments alone in quiet prayer and contemplation of all he knew that would transpire this day. He walked over to a small lake nearby and lifted his

- hands to heaven, "Lord above, I call on you to be my strength, my provider and
 my victory today. Give me wisdom ..." Suddenly a bright light shined upon him
 and an image could be seen in the light and then it spoke.
- 4 "I am Zurel, Chief Captain of the League of Guardians. I come to give you
 5 assurance that this day you shall be delivered from them that seek to destroy you.
 6 On this field an army of three shall stand united and the gates of hell shall not
 7 prevail against it." Then Zurel slowly disappeared before Galen could ask any
 8 questions, however but his faith was now renewed.
- 9 "BOOM," suddenly all of Ellendale shook with the sound of a great boom
 10 that shook even the ground. Galen ran back to his men. "What was that he
 11 shouted?"
- "We were kind of hoping you would tell us. Whatever it was it got theattention of the fairies."
- "BOOM," it happened again. Galen shouted over to Murk, "Murk I
 believe it's time to have the men spread out, take charge of that and remember we
 are in a hurry." Then Galen went out into the field to about the center of it and
 stood. His men fell in behind him and to the side of him. "Bane, you've been
 saying you want to kill evil, well ... I hope you're ready."
- "BOOM," and again the ground shook and half of Galen's men fell to the
 ground, and again they got back up. "Each time the blow to the barrier is getting
 harder," said Murk.
- Then a cloud appeared in thin air just in front of Galen and out stepped the three Princesses of Ellendale, dressed as they had always been. Emmy walked over and stood just to the side of Galen, while Stephanie and Diamond stood almost ten feet away to either side of Emmy, alongside Galen's soldiers.
- 26 "BOOM," Galen turned to face Emmy, "Your barrier can't take much
 27 more of this?" he shouted.

"The great barrier has never been tested to this degree before. I do not
 think it will keep out the dragon much longer. I have already notified your father.
 He has promised us help."

4 "BOOM," and this time the great barrier cracked and all of Ellendale
5 gasped as this had never happened before. All two thousand fairies drew out their
6 knives and spread out over the field as everyone now expected the great barrier to
7 give way with the next blow. They did not have long to wait.

8 "BOOM," and the great barrier gave way and came down like a great 9 melting pot exposing Ellendale to the forces of the Mindosian army. Enemy soldiers as far as could be seen began to pour through the gaping hole in the 10 barrier. Then Princess Stephanie, whose power was of the earth and the wind, 11 raised her hands toward heaven shouted with a loud voice, "Olam Aucknu 12 13 Bemoray." The next thing everyone knew the ground in front of them all the way 14 to the barrier began to shake and crack, opening wide and swallowing up all those Mindosians who dared cross over the barrier threshold. 15

16 The great Dragon watched from his perch in the sky above his soldiers. 17 After seeing what happened to his men the Dragon lifted his head and gave out a 18 horrible roar as if he was summoning his forces. Then as Galen and everyone 19 watched the Mindosian soldiers stopped falling into the bottomless pits as if they 20 could walk and run on air. Galen knew they were being held up by the evil 21 demons of the underworld. The Mindosians continue their attack.

Then Princess Diamond, whose power was of fire, raised her hands and in a loud voice shouting, "Bera Castora Lavernia." Fire suddenly shot out of her hands, she could control and maneuver the fire like a whip as she went about knocking down and killing the Mindosians, many fell due to her fire, but the soldiers kept coming through the barrier.

27 The Dragon looked at Diamond and laughed "I once took you in and made28 you my pet and this is how you repay me?" He shot out balls of fire straight for

Diamond. Emmy moved quickly and summoned a wall of water that quenched the
 fire balls. The Mindosians kept coming through the barrier faster than the sisters
 could stop them.

Seeing how the enemy kept advancing the Princess Emmy raised her
hands towards heaven and instead of summoning the elements under her power
she offered up a pray to her Father for His help in this time of great need. The
great Dragon laughed, "You puny sisters I could crush you anytime I want. You
are nothing to me."

Emmy had faith as one of her many weapons and in a voice that could be 9 heard throughout the valley she declared over all of Ellendale, "No weapon 10 formed against us shall ever prosper." Her simple prayer was answered within 11 seconds. There came the sound of a terrible storm. Dark clouds rapidly formed 12 13 over the battlefield, and lightning and thunder began striking the ground, and in 14 some cases it struck the enemy on the battle field. Then the wind began to blow, but the enemy pushed on intending to kill the sisters if they could only get to 15 them. The force of the wind only grew stronger, and with great power and 16 17 intensity many of the enemy forces were then pushed back.

Then from the East there appeared an extremely large circular tunnel. It 18 19 was a blood red whirlwind. From inside this whirlwind you could hear the blast of the trumpet and the sound of many horses running. A brilliant light shot out of 20 21 the whirlwind. It was the light of the sun striking the shield of the King of Ildar. King Derek made good on his promise to return to Ellendale in their darkest 22 moment and now he was leading many hundreds of Ildarian warriors on 23 horseback. They raced out of the whirlwind tunnel with armor so bright that the 24 glare of it all was blinding to the enemy forces. 25

Galen turned to his men, and yelled as loud as he could, "This is the army of Ildar, my father is here." Cheers rang out, swords and knives from the men and the Fairies lifted high in support of the King. Galen yelled out to everyone

1 including the Fairies "Now is the time we finally defeat the dragon for all he has 2 done. Take your revenge on evil today and all the ruin and destruction it has 3 caused, this do for your families." Galen's thoughts were on Tira and how the dragon had almost killed her. Murk's thoughts were for Corinne and what had 4 5 happened to her in the Black Forest Mountains. Bane could only think of his family which the evil had killed. Galen pointed to Bane, "This is your time 6 7 brother to take your revenge on evil." Bane drew his large sword and ran towards 8 the Mindosian army; seconds later his sword was doing business with those who had killed his family. 9

10 King Derek led his forces onto the field of battle and after that the generals 11 took over and a great battle was underway. Galen found his horse and rode out to 12 meet his father. "Father, I am so glad to see you. I can't believe you came just at 13 the right moment, and what an entrance. That got their attention."

The King looking around at the battle "I see you almost had everything under control here, right? Total chaos is what I see, well that's what war is son, total chaos. Good job holding the line until I could get here! Everyone seems to be engaged in fighting the Mindosians?"

18 "Yes Father everyone is fighting, but we don't seem to be making any19 headway, even with two thousand fairies fighting with us."

20 "Son, I think the battle is going nowhere so far, I sense a problem that has
21 plagued mankind for thousands of years. We will fix the problem right now. Do
22 you have your blue medallion with you?

23

"Yes father, I always have it with me."

"Good because now is a good time to press the jewel, go ahead and press
it now." Galen reached up and pressed the blue jewel on his medallion and
suddenly the blue light shot out across the battle field. "There is more here than
mere human forces. We need our old friend Zurel."

"Father, I know we will win this battle, because this morning Zurel came to me as I was in prayer. I remember his words, 'An army of three shall stand united, and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it.' It is as he declared it father, the Fairies, those of us on the ground including the three Princesses and now you with the armies of Ildar, these are the three armies. It is as the angel Zurel spoke it to me."

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As the King listened to Galen he was also looking up into the sky. "Son have you ever seen such a sight as what I see in the clouds?" Galen looked up and there were thousands of flashes of light flickering between the clouds then coming together into one spot. It was the first indication of the presence of the Guardians. Then the flickering lights became like lightning shooting across the sky, Zurel and his Guardians came swooping down onto the field of battle. Suddenly Galen could see what he could not see only moments earlier.

- "Father the guardians are attacking the demons that are forcing the
 Mindosians to fight so fiercely. The demons are again on the backs of the
 Mindosians causing them to fight this battle of evil for them."
- 17 Zurel, the chief Captain of the League of Guardians landed next to Galen and his father, King Derek. "Greetings Kings of Ildar, I have come as was 18 19 promised. We will protect the three daughters of the King of Ellendale and see to their safety. You have acted heroically today young King Galen, as it has been 20 21 recorded in the books of heaven. My guardians will rid the Mindosians of their evil influence, but we can do nothing for who they are as a people. That is up to 22 the good men of Ildar. It's time for me to banish the Dragon from this place until 23 the time of the end. He has his followers and those who seek their own, but as I 24 speak he is forever this day banished from Ildar." 25
- With that Zurel shot off like a lightning bolt and he grabbed hold of the dragon. The two wrestled in the sky over Ellendale. Zurel swung his sword and the dragon countered him. Neither grew tired, but eventually Zurel again grabbed

hold of the dragon by the throat and threw him as far he could, never to land in
 this kingdom again.

Now the battle was between the Mindosians and the army of Ildar. The army of fairies never gave up as they made sure every Mindosian got the point of why they shouldn't be there. The battle lasted most of the day until the army of Ildar vanquished all the evil men, who were still being poked by the fairies. "Never come back you hear me," yelled Myra. Another poke and the Mindosian soldier jump a foot into the air. He never stopped running all the way back home.

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THE KING MEETS FAMILY

11 Galen shouted to Bane to come over to where he was. Bane looked over 12 and saw a man dressed as a King sitting on a horse with a crown on his head. 13 Excitement took over and Bane ran as fast as he could to Galen.

14 "Yes Galen I am here now," as he took a few minutes to catch his breath.

Then Galen and his father got down off their horses and Galen said to his father, "Father I'd like for you to meet someone special, who we found on the road to the Village of Darkfort. Bane, this is a good time for you to tell my father King Derek who you are."

19 "I would be happy to meet him," said King Derek.

Bane was nervous as he was finally getting to meet the King, "I am Bane
and I come from the far Northern territories. I come in search of family that was
told to me by my grandfather."

- 23 "Bane, tell the King your entire name, all of it," Said Galen.
- 24 "I am so sorry, please excuse me, my name is Bane Silverman Wallace."
- 25 That caught King Derek's attention. "You are from the old clan of26 Wallace?"

"Yes, but I left there two months ago when these evil men came and killed my family. I remember many years ago that my grandfather Mavy Wallace told me of the family that came south and founded a great Kingdom. So, I have come looking for such a man and such a kingdom."

King Derek Looked at Bane then reached out and gave Bane a good hug, "You have found him son. It was my Father King Alexius who came to this place. You are home Bane for we all are Wallace. Galen Wallace I'd say you have a cousin. Now if you don't mind Bane let me have a look at that sword of yours. I am intrigued by the sight of it."

Bane offered up his very big sword to the King so he could see it. King 10 11 Derek stepped back and swung the sword testing its balance and feel in his hand. Then he handed it back to Bane. "That is a good sword, it should be, it comes 12 from our ancient home. Bane you are welcomed here, this shall be your new 13 14 home. Galen, when you get back, take Bane and his sword to our best iron workers and have them start making a new version of this sword ... an Ildarian 15 version. It shall be called the Sword of Ildar. 16

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A TIME OF REST



19 When the last Mindosian soldier crossed back over the barrier all of Ellendale threw their hands in the air and rejoiced. From the peaks of Mount 20 Gillia to the open fields and lakes of the plains, there were scenes of rejoicing and 21 22 celebration. The Fairies danced and the soldiers of Ildar dropped their swords on 23 the ground and rejoiced with the fairies.

24 The Princess Emmy began to float above the battlefield. With a broken heart she surveyed the damage that was before her. Her beloved Ellendale had 25 26 suffered dearly in the war with the Dragon and his army of Mindosians savages. Without a word being said, she lifted her hands, and spoke her words, "El Rapha 27 erets Gillia," meaning "God heals the land of Gillia." In a few seconds, to 28

everyone's surprise the dead of both armies slowly vanished. The ground and
fields of battle came back together and began to heal. The holes filled themselves
back in and the grass suddenly burst forth and the beautiful rolling fields of grass
and wildflowers were now back as they had been, as if the land had never been
marred, for it was being healed.

6 Then the Princess went to the King with a specific request, "King Derek,
7 we have planned a banquet in your honor on our Holy Mountain of Gillia and you
8 would honor us greatly if you would stay in Ellendale for this event tomorrow?
9 You are after all our guest and we owe you our gratitude but want to thank you in
10 a more tangible way. Feel free to bring your families for we would love to have
11 everyone here to rejoice with us."

"I would not miss it for the world," said the King.

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A BANQUET FOR A KING

The next day the Kingdom of Ellendale was a busy place. They had never 15 had a banquet for a King before. Because this was the first banquet of this kind 16 Ellendale had ever created, "everything had to be perfect," said Princess Emmy. 17 The fairies were busy directing all the workers and making the banquet hall more 18 beautiful than it normally was. The greatest chefs in Ellendale worked all morning 19 20 creating the best and the most wonderful dishes that even a King could not resist. All was going according to a plan. The Princess had asked her close friend Ginna, 21 22 the head of the Fairy Counsel, to oversee the plan and to make sure it all was 23 perfect.

In the meantime, workers had begun to repair the great barrier of Ellendale that the evil Dragon had managed to destroy. Through hard work and lots of fairy dust a miracle was performed, and the barrier once again protected Ellendale. Less than a day after the Great War was fought you could not even tell that
 Ellendale had ever just fought a war.

3 The Princess came down from her place on Gillia to meet with King Derek and his son Galen. They had spent the night out in the fields with the 4 soldiers. "I am pleased to inform your Majesty, that work is continuing on the 5 6 banquet that will be held later this evening to honor you and your men. It is quite 7 an undertaking to put something like this together on short notice even here. The land has been healed, I have removed all signs of death here, but our hearts will 8 9 always remember the sacrifice of the men of Ildar. Here they will be remembered. So I have made a marker on this field of their bravery that will stand forever. The 10 Royal Books have been added to, telling the story and of brave deeds and acts of 11 kindness on our behalf." King Derek, Galen, Bane, Murk, and many of the 12 soldiers and citizens of Ellendale, and the Fairies gathered around the memorial 13 that the Princess made. As they looked at the memorial, and to their surprise, a 14 tree began to grow up next to the marker and then the sound of water could be 15 16 heard nearby.

Then King Derek told Emmy, "You honor us more than what is necessary,
but we most humbly accept your kind words, and this gracious memorial marker
to the men of Ildar who fought and died here. On behalf of their families I thank
you for remembering them." Then the King turned to his son Galen, "Make a note
son, you need to do the same thing in Ildar as soon as you get back."

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Galen looked confused ... "Me?"

"It will make perfect sense soon," said the King. "Now if you will excuse
me son, I need to speak with the Princess privately if you don't mind. Then I have
a few errands to do."

King Derek spoke to the Princess for a few minutes of a very secret and extremely important matter that he wanted to have happen at the banquet that night. She shook her head in agreement and then disappeared. Then the King
 found one of the messengers and pulled him aside.

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"I have an urgent message I want you to take back to Ildar to the Queen. It is of the utmost importance she gets this quickly. You wait for them and then bring back the Queen, Tira and Corinne in time that they may attend the banquet tonight. I also have a list of things I want you to make sure gets brought back with them, even if you need to take a second messenger with you, just get it done and don't fail me. Can I trust you with this task?"

9 "Yes, your Majesty, I will do this for you and I do have a trusted friend
10 who can come with me."

Good, then find your friend and get ready to leave now." said the King. It 11 only took a few moments for the messenger to find his friend and both of them 12 13 reported back to the King. "Both of you follow me." The King found a clear spot in the fields and pressed his red jeweled Medallion, and the red whirlwind tunnel 14 15 opened in front of them. Suddenly, as they looked, the castle Alexius was only a hundred yards away. "Get through the tunnel and go straight to the Queen she will 16 17 know what to do. I will open the tunnel up again in three hours. Tell everyone to assemble at the same place you exit this tunnel from. Three hours is all they have, 18 19 now go quickly." The messengers rode as fast as they could through the 20 whirlwind tunnel and into Ildar. The last thing the King saw was the messengers 21 riding through the gates of the castle Alexius.

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THE BANQUET

Three hours later, when the King opened the red whirlwind tunnel, as promised the entire entourage was waiting and it was Queen Katheryn who led everyone through the tunnel. Tira and her sister Corinne were followed by their servants and the Holy Men who carried the box which contained the Book of
 Beginnings

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By the afternoon all was ready, and everyone was in their place. The great doors to the banquet hall were opened revealing a magnificent room fitting for a banquet for a King. The banquet room was more beautiful than anyone from Ildar had ever seen. The three princesses of Ellendale stood in the front of a long table which was reserved for the honored guests.

All three of the Princesses were dressed in beautiful white dresses with 8 9 their hair pinned back by jewels, and their tiaras which were worn on their heads were dazzling to behold. Each one wore a golden medallion which was the 10 11 symbol of their high status in the Kingdom. A fairy came to King Derek and Queen Katheryn, "Greetings my name is Ava, it is my great honor to escort you to 12 13 the front where you will sit with the Princesses. They look forward to having you 14 at their table." So, Ava escorted the King and Queen of Ildar to the front where the sisters Emmy, Stephanie and Diamond waited to greet them. 15

16 Then another fairy escort came up to Galen and his wife Tira, "Greetings 17 my name is Lara and it is my honor to escort you to your table, most honored 18 guests."

19Then Murk and Corinne did not have long to wait. "Hello most honored20guest I am called Winter and I will escort you to your table." Winter took them21straight to the same table as Galen and Tira were sitting, and there they were22seated.

Then Ginna the head of the Fairy Counsel herself appeared and pointed to Bane and said, "Sir, there are no weapons aloud into the banquet room. You will have to leave them outside please." So Bane began to take off his many layers of weapons. One by one he took them off and dropped them to the floor. With loud bangs and clangs the weapons pile grew until all his weapons now laid on the

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floor before him. Ginna patiently waited with her arms crossed for Bane to finish. "Are you sure that is everything?" She was still eyeing Bane and waiting.

Then Bane gave a big sigh and reached into his fur wrapping and pulled out his most favorite knife and pointed it at Ginna, "This was a gift given to me and it is dear to me. Don't you touch it."

Ginna was getting tired of the wait, "Mr. Bane all your things will be safe
I can assure you, we will just move them out of the doorway and over to the
corner waiting for you when everything is finished. Now, I will introduce myself.
I am called Ginna and I am the Head of the Fairy Counsel. It is my responsibility
to ensure the safety of all our quest at the banquet. Now that you are ready to be
seated please follow your escort Fairy Tinlief to your table.

In the meantime, Ginna had summoned three more fairies to move Banes 12 13 pile of weapons out of the way of the door. One of them grabbed the end of a sword and pulled as hard as he could, then he pushed as hard as he could, but to 14 15 no avail. Then the second fairy came and he pulled and tugged for a while when the third fairy came to help. All three fairies pulled and tugged and grunted until 16 17 there was no strength left in them, and they all sat down on the sword to take a break. The first fairy looked at the others and said, "I think these are fine where 18 they are." 19

The next fairy looked at the first and said, "No, we were told to move them out of the way so the people won't trip on them."

22 "Well maybe we can put a sign here to not trip on the weapons," said the23 first fairy again."

"No, no, no," said the second fairy, "that is why you are still a private in
the League of Fairies. You have no ideas, you think two dimensional." All three
of the fairies began to argue, when finally Ginna the head of the Fairy Counsel
suddenly appeared interrupting all of them.

"Quiet please, quiet please, I will tell you what you will do. You will get
one of the soldiers to come and help. They will be glad to move these heavy
weapons for us for a nice gold coin. Now you know why I was put in charge of
this detail, because I find solutions."

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All three fairies let out an "ahhh."

6 As the fairies went to find a soldier to move the pile of weapons Bane was 7 taken down to the front and seated at the table with Galen and Murk. He took the 8 seat right next to Tira directly across from Corinne. Suddenly the two girl's eyes 9 grew larger as this very big man was now sitting right next to Tira. They did not 10 know what to think of this rough looking man with the long blonde hair and 11 animal skin clothing.

Tira looked over at Galen with a look on her face, questioning as to who 12 13 this man was that was sitting next to her. Galen got the hint really fast. "Ah, Tira my love, this is Bane Silverman Wallace. He sort of found us on the road one day. 14 15 We could not miss him, he was sitting on his horse blocking the road. After talking to him we discovered he is actually from the old country my grandfather 16 17 Alexius came from. He was here looking for family since his wife and kids were killed by the Mindosians. So we took him in. You should be nice to him, after all 18 19 they killed his entire family. Then we found out he is my cousin somewhere up the family tree, isn't that right Bane," as Galen bent over looking around Tira to 20 Bane. 21

"Yes, you are my new cousin; King Galen and his father King Derek are
my family now. You are his wife, so you are family for me also." Then Bane
reached over and gave Tire a big hug, pressing her tightly against his fur
draping's. "I like to have family," He said.

Corinne who was watching all this, was now thankful Bane sat on Tira's side of the table and not hers. She quickly scooted closer to Murk saying, "Were married." 1 2

AN AWARD FOR MYRA

Now it was time to get started as all the guests, and the Princesses, and the Nobles of Ellendale were seated the Princess Stephanie stood to her feet and began to address everyone. "I would like to begin tonight by first recognizing one of our very own for the exceptional job she has done and to acknowledge her high calling as a servant to others. I have asked the Fairy Counsel to be here tonight to do the honors of recognizing one of their own."

9 Then from the special place of honor where the twelve members of the 10 Fairy Counsel sat, their leader Ginna stood to her feet. These were the fairies who 11 governed the affairs of the League of Fairies.

12 "Here, before all of our guest tonight, I will introduce myself. My name is Ginna, and it is my honor to now recognize the Fairy called Myra. Myra, will you 13 please come before the counsel and to be recognized?" Myra was shocked that 14 15 she would be given so great an honor for doing what she loved to do most. Myra quickly flew over to the counsel box and landed on the platform in front of it. 16 Ginna continued, "More than any other fairy in all of Ellendale that has ever 17 served, Myra has always gone beyond her calling. Without calling attention to 18 herself and with no thought of any gain for she has the true heart of a servant, she 19 has set a new standard in all of the Kingdom of Ellendale for sacrifice and service. 20 It shall for always be known as the "Myra Standard" for service, selfless and 21 22 devoted to serving others. We also would like to give to Myra a token of our appreciation. For the first time in our history, we will issue a medal of service, the 23 "Myra Medal." 24

Then two Fairies flew up to where the counsel was seated carrying a large box and together they set it before Ginna. In the box was the contents of the first medal of its kind. Ginna struggled at opening the box due to its size. Then she yanked and pulled until finally the medal started to come out and fell to the floor of the viewing stand before Ginna. Myra's eyes grew wide open looking at this
medal. The maker of the medal was waiting to see how Ginna would like his
work. Ginna looked over at him and commented, "Why is the medal so big, and
it's too heavy too."

5 "I am sorry Miss Ginna we have never made a medal before so I modeled6 it from a medal that the men of Ildar had."

"Well couldn't you have made it smaller? They are big and we are small, I
tell you I have to be involved in everything or it just gets messed up and wrong.
Next time make the medal fairy size. I don't have any fairy dust with me to make
this one smaller either."

Ginna could do nothing about the medal for now she would just have to 11 use it this time even though it was three times the size of Myra, a small detail the 12 13 fairies forgot to consider. With all her strength Ginna pinned the oversized medal on Myra for all the people and fairies of Ellendale to see. Everyone applauded and 14 cheered for Myra who turned facing everyone and for all to see her medal, even if 15 it did almost cover most her body. To Myra's surprise the weight of the medal 16 17 caused Myra to begin to sink while she was waving to everyone. Seeing the problem Myra had the Princess Stephanie quickly point at the medal and a 18 magical beam of glitter suddenly went out and hit the medal making it lighter than 19 even little Myra, making it easier to carry it around. 20

Princess Stephanie signaled to Myra to come and be with the three Princesses at their table. They all offered Myra their hand and Myra gladly shook a finger of all the princesses and kept going over to King Derek and Queen Katheryn and shook their fingers also. It was the best day of her life and she was very proud and stood tall, so everyone could see her new medal which was named after her.

Then the Princess Diamond stood to her feet and announced it was time to eat and afterwards her sister Emmy had some words she wanted to say. Then Diamond turned to King Derek and said to him, "Your Majesty, since we do not have the space for all your army to attend here with us, and seeing how they are still out in the fields, we have arranged for them to be feed the same meal we enjoy here. There is an army of fairies, as I speak, now serving your men and tending to their needs. We will never forget what they have done for us. Now let everyone fill themselves with food and laughter and may all be blessed."

7 With those words many servants came out with trays filled with food and placing them on the tables for everyone to help themselves too. Each table was 8 9 filled with all manner of food and fruits and goblets of the best wine in all Ellendale. Murk and Bane together consumed most the food at their table. Tira 10 and Corinne were cautious to not get in the way of those two while they were 11 12 eating, they only put on their plate's tiny morsels of food so not to give the wrong impressions to the others. As quickly as the food was eaten more would be 13 brought. That night no one would leave the banquet hungry. 14

Myra spent the least amount of time eating, but rather was busy flying around showing off her medal. Everyone congratulated Myra offering up a toast to her at every table. Laughter and good times were all that could be heard in the banquet hall and the three sisters were very pleased.

19 Almost an hour later Princess Emmy stood to her feet. At the sight of 20 Emmy standing everyone quieted down to hear what she would say. "To all our honored guests tonight, my sisters and I and all of Ellendale say thank you. Thank 21 you for coming to our side in our time of great need." Then the banquet hall broke 22 into shouts of cheers and applause as the Ellen's wanted to show the King of Ildar 23 their appreciation for all Ildar had done for them. Emmy continued, "The 24 Kingdom of Ellendale and the Kingdom of Ildar are joined now my mutual 25 sacrifice and many acts of kindness for each other." Emmy looked directly at 26 King Derek, "Because of your sacrifices, I declare that you shall always be a part 27 of Ellendale and Ellendale shall live in the hearts of all Ildar. We shall forever be 28

joined as one Kingdom forever. All the fairies, our people and all living things of
Ellendale will honor this day as a special day of remembrance when two
Kingdoms became one." Again, the banquet hall broke out in applause and
cheers. Emmy continued, "As I speak it is being recorded in the Holy Books of
Mount Gillia."

6 It was at this time that the mighty banquet doors suddenly blew open and a 7 gentle gust of wind blew over everyone in the great hall. All three of the sisters 8 stood to their feet and held out their hands as the breeze seem to focus on them. 9 Their hair and dresses now blew in the strong breeze. Then suddenly it stopped 10 and the great doors closed on their own. Everyone looked at each other as to what 11 had just happened. Princess Emmy spoke in a loud voice, "Our Father agrees and 12 so it shall be, two Kingdoms become one tonight."

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A KINGDOM FOR GALEN

Everyone cheered and raised their goblets in a toast to this new decree.

After the three sisters had said and done all that they had planned that night, King Derek stood to his feet to address the guest, leaders, and elders of Ellendale. "For the record Princess Emmy I approve of the idea of our two kingdoms being one this is a good thing. In my life I have learned that change comes to everything and to everyone. As we have experienced and seen here tonight, our kingdoms and with God's help, our people have become one.

Many years ago, my father King Alexius in his old age made me King in his place just before his death. I did not ask for nor did I want the position, but in honor of my Father and to his memory I accepted the crown. My wife Queen Katheryn has given me an heir, a son who has proven himself worthy by virtue of his selflessness and of his fulfilling several quests which I have laid upon him. All he has done, asking nothing in return, except a wife and even for her he had to fight the dragon to get her back. Because of these things I believe it is time for even the crown to become new."

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Then King Derek motioned with his hand, the banquet doors opened, and the royal guards of the Holy Book came through the door carrying the box which was covered in the sacred royal purple coverings. They approached the King and set the box down at his feet.

7 The King looked towards his son and said, "Will my son, whom I made temporary king on the field of battle, and his beautiful wife please come and stand 8 before this sacred box." All of Ellendale took notice for they had never seen 9 something like this before. Then King Derek asked the three princesses of 10 11 Ellendale to come and stand behind Galen and Tira. This would be a true union of two kingdoms. "May I have my sword please?" asked the King. The princess 12 13 Emmy looked at one of the Fairies, who looked at one of the servants, who looked at one of the guards, who ran and found the Kings sword and brought it to the 14 Princess who handed it to the King. 15

- King Derek motioned for the royal guards to remove the coverings from the box. This they quickly did. Then the King lifted the lid of the box, and suddenly a soft blue light shot out and filled the banquet hall. All of the Ellen's who had never before witnessed this gasped in awe of the beauty of the light. The King reached down into the box and felt around and this time he felt the book. He laid hold of the book and lifted it out of the box, holding it in his hands.
- No one in all of Ellendale had ever seen this Book of Beginnings, though
 many had heard of it. The three sisters marveled at the sight of it. It was truly the
 most beautiful book they had ever seen.
- Nothing had to be said for Galen knew what he must do next, and so he bowed his knee to his father who held the sacred book. Then the King looking at his son began to speak directly to him, "Galen, this has been your destiny from the day you were born." Then the King opened the book facing it towards Galen

1 who was focused on the page it was opened to. He saw the symbols and marking 2 which no one else recognized except for him. Galen reached out to the book and 3 placed his hand on the page for he wanted to feel what was in the book. Galen focused on the symbols when he noticed they began to move slightly and a blue 4 light came out from under each symbol. Something passed from the book to 5 Galen and he shook a little as though he was cold. Small cold bumps rose up on 6 7 his body and then were gone just as quickly. Then, suddenly, understanding came to Galen. Galen said nothing of what this understanding was. He only looked at 8 his father and he said, "I understand father, the Spirit of the book has spoken." 9

Galen took his hand away from the book and bowed his head in respect for the book and the Spirit of the book. The King picked up his sword and tapped each side of Galen's shoulders three times and at the same time saying, "Galen Anthony Wallace, son of the King of Ildar and grandson of King Alexius founder of all of the realm of Ildar, by the power of God who declares each King by His choosing. I declare you Galen Wallace the King of all Ildar and of its territories and providences and kingdoms."

Then all of the men of Ildar and even the women got down on one knee and shouted, "Long live King Galen." Then King Derek laid the Book of Beginnings down on the lid which covered the box. Then the Priest who came over earlier from Ildar dressed in the royal garments of his office, came up behind King Derek and removed his crown. He then stepped back around Derek and over to Galen and placed the crown on his head.

Then he went over behind Queen Katheryn and removed her crown and stepped over to Tira and placed it on her head. "I crown you Tira, Queen of Ildar and of its territories and providences and kingdoms."

Again, the people of Ildar shouted "Long live the Queen." Then two more priests came into the banquet hall with the royal robes for the new King and Queen. This time Derek and Katheryn stepped out of their place and took the

1 robes and personally put them on Galen and Tira. With that they turned King 2 Galen and Queen Tira around to face everyone in the great hall. However, before 3 anything else took place and as everyone was silent waiting to see what would happen next, the Book of Beginnings began to glow brightly its soft blue glow 4 and the light of it went out and engulfed Galen and Tira. It also covered the three 5 Princesses of Ellendale and the Priest and Derek and his wife Katheryn. Those 6 7 closest to Tira could hear her saying something in quiet whisper, as if she was talking to someone and then became quiet. The light grew in size and soon 8 covered everyone in the great hall, both the great and the noble, to the servants 9 also, and all the fairies. The great light expanded to all of Ellendale to those who 10 were not on Mount. Gillia, and to those who were on the grassy fields and the 11 12 memorial. All of Ellendale was cover in a blue light and everyone understood the word of the Spirit of the Book. After a minute or two the glow subsided and went 13 back into the book. 14

Derek looked at his son and spoke to him, "Well son you are the King 15 16 now, you need to put the book back and give the commands for its safe keeping." 17 So Galen did as his father suggested. He spoke, and the guards of the sacred box came and placed the Book of Beginnings and the purple covering back on the 18 19 box. The Priest and the guards left the room. Everyone relax then and soon all 20 three sisters were congratulating the new King and Queen. They gave them many 21 hugs and promises of cooperation between the two kingdoms now that the two are 22 one, and Galen is the new King of them. Galen's father Derek suggested to Galen 23 that he might want to start clearing everyone out and sending them back home 24 before it got too late.

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However, Galen was first curious about Tira, "Tira, what was going on when the spirit of the light was on you it sounded as if you were talking to it?"

- 27 "I wasn't talking to it, I was answering it."
 - "Well Tira ... what were you answering, what was the question?"

1	"No question, but a mystery was told to me."	
2	"What was this mystery," asked Galen.	
3	"The Spirit of the book said to me, 'A great mystery shall fall on Ildar, and	
4	the burden of the Kingdom shall fall on you. If you are willing, if not, there is	
5	another.' I answered, 'I was willing.' I cannot say any more. Please don't ask me	
6	either."	
7	"What's that supposed to mean," asked Galen.	
8	"The mystery was not given to you. Be the King that is your destiny, and	
9	while you're at it, you can start practicing on being a daddy too."	
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11	GOING HOME	
12	Galen's father also gave to him the red medallion. As King it was up to	
13	him to know when to use it now. So, Galen gathered all the troops together on the	
14	grassy fields of Ellendale and pressed the red medallion. As the tunnel opened the	
15	generals took their men through the whirlwind tunnel and back onto Ildar soil and	
16	home. Then all the priests and the holy men with carried the box which contained	
17	the Book of Beginnings went next into the tunnel and headed back into the castle	
18	to put the book in its safe place.	
19	Galen waited until everyone had gone through the tunnel and only his	
20	family was left to go through the tunnel. "Before anyone else goes through the	
21	tunnel I just wanted to take a moment alone with you to thank each one for how	
22	you have believed in me, fought for me, and now you have honored me. I don't	
23	know what the future will be, but I believe in all of you, and in the book by which	
24	we live."	
25	Derek and Katheryn road up to Galen and his mother reached out and	
26	touched Galen, "We have always believed in you son, you will be a good King, I	

know it, and something else, I already heard, good news travels fast. You're going to be a great daddy son." Then they road into the tunnel and headed home.

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Murk and Corinne came next and Murk hollered to Galen, "I will follow you anywhere my King. Someone has to protect you now that you're going to be a daddy." Murk let out a loud laugh, and then he rode off into the tunnel with Corinne sitting behind him on the horse. The rest of Galen's men still wearing their golden armor saluted Galen and rode through the tunnel behind Murk.

8 The last one to leave was Bane. "I owe you much cousin. You made me 9 part of a family again. I am forever grateful to you for that. My sword and my life 10 are yours to command, and something else too, you will like being a daddy, it is a 11 big honor." Then he too rode through the tunnel and for the first time he saw the 12 castle which was named for his uncle Alexius.

Finally, Galen reached over and grabbed the reigns of Tira's horse and moved closer to her, "Well Queen Tira, I want to tell you something. Remember when we were in school and I first got my medallion I had visions of battles and only a few glimpses of you. I knew you would always be with me, but I never saw this moment or what may come after this. I am happy now and even more so because you are with me. Thank you Tira,"

19 Tira looked only at him and smiled back in approval. "Tira, know that 20 there once was a King that loved you very much and will love you forever. Now 21 let's go home." Then the two of them rode their horses into the tunnel and back 22 home like the others had before them. As they passed through the tunnel King 23 Galen could be heard asking Tira a question, "Just how many people did you tell 24 that you are expecting a baby? Why didn't you tell me first? I never get told 25 anything and I'm the last one to know. This has to change."

At the last possible second just as the whirlwind began to close down a flash was seen flying into the tunnel and into Ildar. "They will always need me," said Myra. 1 2

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THE COMING OF THE MYSTERY

So, King Galen and Queen Tira lived long and happy lives as the prophecy had predicted. The Kingdom of Ildar grew under King Galen and because of his faithfulness the Spirit of the Book blessed them with sons and daughters. The Kingdom knew its longest time of peace and prosperity.

7 The King would have many more adventures far and beyond his 8 homeland. Then there came a day when King Galen summoned his men together 9 for a patrol of the forest. "Men of Ildar and my dear friends, there is word of evil 10 men who are robbing our citizens as they pass by on the road through the forest. 11 Once again it falls to us to vanquish those who do this evil even at the point of our 12 swords. Follow me and Bane you follow also, but from a distance behind to guard 13 the rear from attack."

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"Yes, my King I will protect your back and watch for signs of evil men."

Then the men began their patrol at a rather faster pace than normal, and sure enough Bane kept about fifty feet from the last man in the patrol. As they moved through the forest and the winding road Bane began to fall back further than he had wanted to. No matter how hard he tried to catch up he seemed to be falling further behind and then the road became hard to make out as if a fog had suddenly formed in the forest.

Bane lost sight of the patrol, so he stopped and cried out to those ahead of him, "Galen where are you? Anyone … where did you go? I cannot see you anymore." There was no answer. Bane waited for a few minutes then tried to move forward on the road, but the horse bucked and refused to move forward. "Hello! Can you hear me?" shouted Bane. He drew out his sword expecting an enemy to come out of the thick fog that had suddenly overcome him. "Hello!" Can you hear me?" still no answer.

1 Bane sat there for some time waiting until the fog began to lift and the road could be seen again. Then as fast as he could he took off down the path 2 3 following the trail of hoof prints from the horses of the patrol. He came to a place where the prints and all evidence of the patrol vanished. Like nothing Bane had 4 ever seen before, the patrol was there and then like that they had disappeared 5 suddenly. Bane turned around in all directions and with one last holler, "Hello! 6 7 Where are you? I am here." Like the times before there was no answer. Bane 8 turned his horse around and road back to the castle, thinking maybe the patrol had turned around by another road and went back. Maybe they are waiting for him 9 back home? 10

11 Several hours had passed and still no patrol could be found or heard from 12 and Bane knew he had to go report this to the Queen. Queen Tira did not take the 13 news well and asked if in the morning Bane would take a larger patrol with him 14 and try to follow the same path as they had gone down. Then Tira asked the 15 General in charge to have several patrols go out also and comb the entire country 16 side if needed to find the King and his patrol.

Queen Tira asked for her friend Myra to come to her chambers, which she
did. "Myra, there is a problem, and I would like to ask the Princess Emmy if she
can help us. Can you contact her for me?"

20 "Yes, your Majesty I can," Then Myra dug into her bag and set out her
21 little mirror and sprinkled the fairy dust over it and within seconds a full-size
22 mirror was standing before the two of them. Myra flew up to the middle of the
23 mirror and said to the mirror, "I need to speak to the Princess Emmy. It is
24 important, please hurry." The scenery of the mirror changed as it moved over the
25 fields and then up to Mount Gillia and within a few seconds Emmy was looking at
26 them through the mirror.

- 27 "Is there a problem Myra that you need me in such a hurry?"
- 28 "I have Queen Tira here also she is very upset and asked for your help."

"Oh dear," said Emmy. "What has happened that you would need our
 help?" For the sake of the Queen, Emmy stepped out of the mirror and into the
 room as her image of light moved towards Tira.

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- Tira broke down in tears before the light image of Emmy, "My husband King Galen and his men were out on patrol and they have all vanished and no one can find them. It has been too long now, and they have not come back. Can you help us find them?"
- 8 "I can try," said Emmy. Emmy put her hand up to Tira's heart and asked 9 Tira to focus on Galen and no other. In this way she could follow her heart link 10 back to Galen and find him. There was silence for several moments, as Emmy 11 tried hard to locate the King and his patrol. Finally, Emmy had something to say 12 to Tira.
- "Tira, I have bad news to tell you. I cannot find Galen or any of his men.
 Your heart link went unanswered which means they are no longer here, but I
 didn't sense that they were dead, they are just not here. I am sorry, but at this
 point all the searching in the world will not find the King or his men."
- Tira broke down again in tears. Myra said a good bye to the Princess and
 the mirror shrank back down and was put away. "I'm sorry Tira I love Galen too,
 what could have possibly happened is a mystery for sure."
- Those words of Myra's, "a mystery" came back to Tira as she had been
 told of a mystery that would come to Ildar and how the kingdom would fall to her.
- The Queen let the search go on for thirty days and slowly everyone began to except the fact that their King was gone. There was the traditional time of mourning for the King as Tira slowly accepted the fact that it was up to her to rule until her first born son John Alexius Wallace was old enough and mature enough to rule in his father's place.

Tira had collected the medallions that Galen and his father used to summon the angels, or to conjure up a red whirlwind tunnel and put them in a wooden box so that she might one day, when it was time, pass them on to the next King. The great sword with the blue jewel in it that in the beginning had been given by Zurel to King Alexius, then King Derek, and finally King Galen was now tucked away in a beautiful wooden box covered in a royal purple cloth and placed with the other artifacts of the Kings. These items were placed for safe keeping with the holy Book of Beginnings, which was guarded night and day.

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9 In the absence of the King, Bane felt it was his place to protect the Queen.
10 He knew what it was like to lose family. Over the years Bane became a good
11 friend to Tira, becoming her chief protector. It was Bane who taught the sons of
12 Galen the art of battle and the proper use of the sword, and most importantly what
13 it was to be a Wallace.



Epilogue

The lives of the King and Queen and of their deep love for each other fell to the story tellers and those who write history. The lives of Galen and Tira became the things that legends are made of and that mighty men of old sought to emulate. Four generations of the offspring of King Galen would come to rule over Ildar as the prophecy foretold. Of the four Kings to come after King Galen only one lost sight of the reason he was the King. He sought out his own selfish desires and lost regard for the holy artifacts of the past. While he slept the enemy came in and like a thief, the Holy Book of Beginnings was stolen and never heard of again. It became lost to time, only the Person of the Book knows of its whereabouts and most importantly its future.

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The events in the lives of the Kings of	f Ildar are recorded as an eternal
record in the "Book of the Kings." As it is in	n heaven there shall always be a
record of the things that each man has done of	his own free will. As it was with

record in the "Book of the Kings." As it is in heaven there shall always be a record of the things that each man has done of his own free will. As it was with the Kings of old, so let it be a lesson to all people everywhere. The things you choose in life mandate the path of your life and only you can change that. What will you choose today?

THE END